# Exhibit 4

Merrill Lynch

Comment

United States Internet Software & Services

20 December 1999

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# **CMGI**

Initiating Coverage with Accumulate/Buy

**ACCUMULATE** 

Reason for Report: Initial Opinion

(28-Jan-1999)

(25-Oct-1999)

Long Term BUY

Price:	\$2	22 3/16	
Estimates (Jul)	1999A	2000E	2001E
EPS: P/E: EPS Change (YoY):	NA: NM	NA NM NM	NM.
Cash Flow/Share: Price/Cash Flow:	NA NM	NA NM	
Dividend Rate: Dividend Yield:	Nil Nil	Nii Nii	•
Opinion & Financial Data		•	
Investment Opin Mkt. Value / Shares Outstanding () Book Value/Share (Oct/19 Price/Book F ROE 2000E Aver LT Liability % of Cap Est. 5 Year EPS Gro	mn): \$25, 199): \$30, tatio 7,3x rage: NA oital: 0.09	107 / 113 44	
Institutional Ownership-Spect	nge: CM ions: Non rum: 29.8	-	
ML Industry Weightings & R	atings**		
Strategy; Weighting Rel. to M Inco Gro Income & Gro	ome: .Und wth: Ove	erweight rweight rweight	(07-Mar-1995) (07-Mar-1995) (07-Mar-1995)

<sup>\*\*</sup>The views expressed are those of the macro department and do not necessarily coincide with those of the Fundamental analyst. For full investment opinion definitions, see footnotes.

Capital Appreciation:

Market Analysis; Technical Rating:

In Line

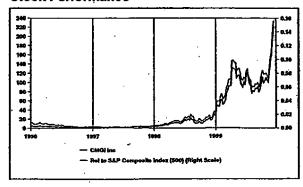
# Investment Highlights:

- We are initiating coverage of CMGI with an Accumulate/Buy rating and 12-18 month price target of \$300 (3X est. NAV of \$100/share). The stock is a core holding in our internet portfolio.
- CMGI's stock has performed exceptionally well over the last three years. CMGI's operating companies and venture investments have included 8 successful IPOs (with 2 more in registration) and 9 sales.
- CMGI's stock tends to trade as a proxy for the
  health of the Internet sector and Internet IPO
  market. We believe the stock will continue to be
  exceptionally volatile but trend higher long-term.
  Bottom line, CMGI is long the internet. As long as
  the public market for internet stocks does well,
  CMGI probably will, too.

# Fundamental highlights:

- CMGI is an internet holding company that develops, operates, and invests in other internet companies. The company's holdings include majority-owned subsidiaries such as Alta Vista and more than 30 strategic minority investments across all sectors of the internet industry.
- Although the majority of CMGI's public holdings focus on B2C (advertising services, especially), nearly two-thirds of its investments are in the Infrastructure and B2B sectors. In addition, it is in the process of

# Stock Performance



RC#20135426

Merrill Lynch & Co. Global Securities Research & Economics Group Global Fundamental Equity Research Department launching a new \$1 billion B2B fund, Asian and European funds, an infrastructure fund, and an e-commerce fund.

Document 9-5

### Summary

CMGI is a holding company that develops, operates, and invests in Internet companies. The company's holdings comprise both majority-owned subsidiaries and strategic minority investments. The holdings are concentrated in the Internet content, commerce, community, advertising services, infrastructure, and B2B sectors.

Our basic internet investment strategy for aggressive investors is to allocate a small percentage of capital (10%) to a basket of high-quality Internet stocks. We would add CMGI to this group of core Internet names, and we believe it has several characteristics that make it an especially compelling investment.

- CMGI is expected to increasingly focus on international, infrastructure, and B2B - more nascent (read strong growth ahead) and larger Internet markets long-term than domestic B2C.
- CMGI, in and of itself, is a basket of investments. The majority of the investment holdings are private companies (although the majority of the estimated net asset value is derived from public or soon-to-be-public companies). Obviously, there is a large amount of risk in private-market investing. However, that risk is offset by diversity and by what we believe is the potential for a great deal of upside. Not all of CMGI's companies will grow to the sky; in fact, it is likely that some won't grow at all-and that's okay. In this industry, a few home runs can offset dozens of strike-

# Company Description

CMGI is a complex company with many moving parts. However, from 50,000 feet the company and its strategy are fairly simple. CMGI:

- Founds, invests in, or buys internet companies;
- provides capital;
- merges, splits, or otherwise re-organizes the companies (assuming this will enhance value);
- provides infrastructure and back-end fulfillment services (technology, hosting, content delivery, etc.), in part through CMGI Solutions, a majority-owned subsidiary dedicated to providing end-to-end ebusiness solutions;
- provides strategic, management, and marketing expertise, the latter through a network of advertising services companies; and
- promotes collaboration among the companies.

CMGI plans to continue investing in Internet companies at a rapid pace, targeting 1-3 acquisitions and 4-6 @Ventures investments per month.

# ■ Corporate Structure

CMGI's subsidiaries and strategic investments have their own management teams, most of which in one way or another report to David Wetherell (CMGI's CEO) and the rest of the CMGI management team. CMGI itself consists of a small senior management group, a finance group, a corporate development group, and the @Ventures group, which includes eight managing partners. One of the risks for CMGI (and other large internet holding companies) is scaleability: as the company's subsidiaries become large, global businesses, it will become increasingly critical to hire and retain strong operating managers.

# Internet Venture Funds

The Company maintains investments in three Internet venture funds: CMG@Ventures I, LLC, CMG@Ventures II, LLC and CMG@Ventures III, LLC. CMGI owns 100% of the capital and is entitled to 77.5% to 80% of the net capital gains of these three funds. The funds' track record includes six successful Internet IPOs (Lycos, GeoCities, Silknet, Chemdex, Critical Path and MotherNature.com), seven strategic company sales and one companies currently in the IPO process.

While CMGI is known more for its B2C investments such as Lycos and GeoCities, nearly two-thirds of the companies in the current @Ventures portfolios operate in the B2B arena. The company is in the process of forming a variety of new venture funds, including CMG@Ventures B2B, a new venture fund to be focused exclusively on business-to-business Internet venture capital investments. This fund is expected to reach up to \$1 billion in capital, with CMGI as the sole limited investor.

Other upcoming funds include:

- @Ventures Asia, a \$100-200 million fund set up as a joint venture with Pacific Century CyberWorks;
- @Ventures Europe, a \$500 million \$1 billion fund for which the company could possibly make an acquisition;
- @Ventures IV, a \$500 million \$1 billion fund focusing on e-commerce and viral marketing companies; (marketing that propagates itself, such as advertisement at the end of an e-mail) and
- @Ventures Internet Technology Marketing Fund, a \$500 million - \$1 billion fund focusing on Internet infrastructure companies.

# Model and Valuation

We are initiating coverage of CMGI with an Accumulate/Buy rating and 12 month price objective of \$300 based on 3X estimated net asset value (NAV) of about \$100 per share. This multiple of NAV is significantly higher than CMGI's historical average, which has usually been around 1X-2X NAV, but is an substantial (Continued) discount to the 10X NAV multiple of CMGI's best public comparable, Internet Capital Group. Although newer to the market than CMGI, ICG has focused more intently on developing a large and specialized senior management team at the holding company level, which should allow it to scale effectively. ICG is also focused exclusively on B2B and has fewer public holdings, which presumably leaves more immediate upside in its NAV. Over time, as CMGI continues to build out its operating expertise and proves that it is capable of successfully integrating the many public companies it has acquired in the past few months, we believe CMGI's multiple to NAV could expand.

Valuing CMGI is difficult at best and futile at worst (estimated asset value plus option value leaves plenty of room for subjectivity). CMGI is highly volatile and with a market cap of \$25 billion (2X estimated net asset value), it is certainly not inexpensive. We believe, however, that CMGI will continue to increase its NAV for as long as the public market for Internet companies remains strong.

CMGI will likely continue to trade as a proxy for the health of B2C (and now B2B) Internet companies and for the health of the Internet IPO market, both of which are largely sentiment and catalyst driven. As long as fundamentals of Internet usage and e-commerce look strong, valuation per se will likely not be a significant driver of the stock in either direction, and CMGI will move along with, and possibly at a premium to, the sector. If the Internet sector craters, of course, CMGI will crater along with it.

To perform a bottoms-up valuation analysis of CMGI we first add together four components to estimate a net asset value (NAV):

- value of public holdings (which we estimate to be about \$7 billion),
- estimated value of companies projected to go public within the next year (post IPO trading value, another \$3 billion),
- estimated value of the remaining holdings (\$1.2 billion from the remaining consolidated holdings and only \$400 million from @Ventures holdings), and
- \$705 million in cash, for a total net asset value of \$12.6 billion, or \$110 per CMGI share.

We then consider two additional factors: 1) estimated change in the NAV of the current business over time, and 2) option value—or the estimated value of all new investments or other value the company might make over time. These factors, along with the second and third components of net asset value, are highly subjective, and can make the stock look either outrageously expensive—or quite reasonable, even at \$220 (at the current rate of internet sector appreciation, it would not take long for the NAV to double).

As in other industries, Internet market leaders such as

CMGI perpetually look overvalued. In most cases, they stay that way—and investors that buy and hold are richly rewarded. In this sector especially, we would rather pay up for high quality names such as CMGI than pay cheaper prices for lesser quality companies. Bottom line, CMGI is long the internet—and, in our opinion, represents a good way for public market investors to do the same.

# ■ Key Issues/Metrics to Track

In our opinion, the three key metrics to track while following CMGI are: 1) the progress of integration of the advertising and marketing services subsidiaries (Engage, Adsmart, et. al.), 2) the combined value of the company's top 10 holdings, and 3) upcoming IPOS.

While CMGI has investments in over 50 Internet companies, we estimate that 80% of its net asset value is derived from its top 10 holdings. Of these ten, six are public companies (Engage, NaviSite, Lycos, Yahoo, Pacific Century Cyberworks, and Silknet). The market value of CMGI's stake in these companies is approximately \$6.6 billion, or 53% of our estimated \$12.6 billion total NAV. The four remaining top ten holdings are consolidated properties (AltaVista, iCast, NaviNet, and Adsmart.) We estimate the NAV of these to be \$3.5 billion, or 28% of the total, based on our F2000 revenue estimates and revenue multiples for each company (12X for Alta Vista, 7X for iCast, and 10X for Navinet and Adsmart).

We expect four of CMGI's consolidated properties (AltaVista, Navinet, 1stUp.com, and MyWay.com) and three @Venture investments (Furniture.com, Vicinity and Ancestry.com) to go public within the next year. These liquidity events often serve as catalysts for CMGI's stock, particularly when the company going public represents a significant piece of CMGI's net asset value (such as Alta Vista).

# ■ Risks

Like all internet stocks, CMGI is an extremely risky investment. The risks include: volatility (50% moves in either direction with no change in fundamentals are normal), integration (CMGI has been buying 2-3 companies a month for the last six months), and the health of the public market internet sector in general.

Table 1: CMGI Asset Model

Table 1: CMGI Asset Mode	;I						•	
	a cker	Price &	Shares	a Marketa Eu	IIV DILECTICAL	CMGI Fully D	luted As	s et Value
Public Holdings	T 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	12/17/99		Value	Share:		% ol-J	
								Share
		\$280		\$25,615	0.3%	\$70	0.6%	\$0.62
Akamai	AKAM	•	91 337	31,971	0.0%	10	0.1%	0.02
Amazon.com	AMZN	95		=		•	1.2%	1.39
Chemdex Corporation	CMDX	73	32	2,307	6.8%	158		
Critical Path	СРТН	68	38	2,585	3.4%	89	0.7%	0.78
Engage Technologies	ENGA	60	47	2,817	82.4%	2,320	18.4%	20.50
Hollyw ood	HLYW	14	46	640	9.5%	61	0.5%	0.54
Entertainment	•					_		_1_
Informix	<b>IFMX</b>	9	191	1,774	0.1%	1	0.0%	0.01
Lycos	LCOS	82	87	7,139	13.2%	942	7.5%	8.32
Marketing Services	MSGI	17	25	427	9.2%	39	0.3%	0.35
Group					•			
Mother Nature	MTHR	9	15	138	7.2%	10	0.1%	0.09
Mother Nature	MTHR	. 7	15	103	0.0%	0	0.0%	0.00
warrants @ \$2.31								٠
Navisite	NAVI	68	27	1,850	71.6%	1,326	10.5%	11.71
Open Market	OMKT	35	36	1,274	0.4%	4	0.0%	0.04
Open Market	OMKT			•	0.2%	2	0.0%	0.01
warrants @ \$16.43								
Pacific Century	PCCLF	1	8,816	11,373	5.1%	578	4.6%	5.11
CyberWorks		<del>-</del>	-,	,			•	
Premiere Technologies	· PTEK	7	47	333	0.0%		0.0%	•
Silknet	SILK	123	16	1,921	14.2%	273	2.2%	2.41
Silknet warrants @	. SILK				0.4%	. 7	0.1%	0.06
	·. OILIN	•		•	· ·	. *	. 0	. 0.55
\$2.20* .	TIXX	16	57	902	1.0%	9	0.1%	80.0
Tickets.com	USWB	44	76	3,353	0.2%	6	0.0%	0.05
USWeb		344	263	•	1.1%	1,028	8.1%	9.08
Yahoo!	YH00	344	203	90,554	0.2%	180	1.4%	1,59
Yahool options @ \$1.3	YHOO			·				
				i otal Pui	olic Holdings	\$7,114	56.3%	\$62.85
	and the state of t	پولا کرد شد در		A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR		CMGI Fully.i	ing a series	性性化 经营营税
	Ventures/			valuation	FD CMGI			
IPO Candidates	Consol'd	Bt.	Multi		A Share			Per CMGI
	Sub.							Share.
Furniture.com	V3	\$10	7.0x	70	3.5%	2	0.0%	0.02
Vicinity Corp.	V1,2	10	10.0x	100	39.1%	39	0.3%	0.35
MyFamily.com	V3	10	7.0x	70	5.1%	4	0.0%	0.03
(Ancestry.com)				-				
AltaVista/RagingBull	С	290	12.0x	3,480	64.8%	2,255	17.9%	19.92
NaviNet	C	45	10.0x	450 ·	80.0%	360	.2.8%	3.18
1st up.com	C	15	10.0x	150	80.0%	120	0.9%	1.06
CMGI Solutions	C.	14	10.0x	140	80.0%	112	0.9%	0.99
MyWay.com	C .	\$50	7.0x	\$350	80.0%	280	2.2%	2.47
; <b>.</b> ,		,	Tota	l IPO Candid	ate Holdings	\$3,172	25.1%	\$28.03
					,	•		
				Ot	her Holdings	\$1,641	13.0%	\$14.50
					IGI Holdings	\$11,927	94.4%	\$105.37
				TOTAL OIL	Cash	\$705	5.6%	\$6.23
					Caşıı	Ψ/00	0.070	4,0.20
							100.0%	Adutton a wind
•					MGI Assets	\$12,632	100.0%	
	-				I Share Price		1	S 2/40
				Price	/Asset Value			77.22.0X
				Sha	res outstanding			113.0

Source: ML Estimates

CMGI Inc - 20 December 1999

[CMG] The securities of the company are not isled but leads over-the-counter in the Uoland States. In the US, retail sales under distribution of this report may be made only in states where these securities are example from registration or have been qualified for sale. MEPFAS or its affiliates usually made a market in the securities of this company.

Fibition, 5 - Self, 6 - No Fibiting. Income Hairing(2): 7 - Sainteringuet, 8 - Sametyreet, 9 - No Class Divisions. Copyright 1999 Merill Lynch, Pierce, Finer & Smith Income 18 Smith Income 1

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FOREIGN CLIPECTY takes of exchange may adversely affect the value, price or income of any sacurity or retailed investment mensioned in this report. In addition, investors in securities such as AOPs, whose values are interacted by the currency of the underlying security, effectively assume currency list.

# **Merrill Lynch**

Bulletin

United States Internet Software & Services

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ACCUMULATE

Reason for Report: Initial Opinion

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Cash Flow/Share: Price/Cash Flow:	NA NM	NA NM	NA NM
Dividend Rate: Dividend Yield:	Nil Nil	Nil Nil	Nil Nil
Opinion & Financial Data			<u> </u>
Investment O Mkt. Value / Shares Outstanding Book Value/Share (Oct Price/Book ROE 2000E A LT Liability % of C Est. 5 Year EPS C	g (mn): \$25 /1999): \$30 Ratio: 7.3; verage: NA Capital: 0.09	<b>.</b>	
Stock Data			

\$240-\$16 1/4 52-Week Range: Symbol / Exchange: CMG1/OTC Options: 29.8% Institutional Ownership-Spectrum:

# ML Industry Weightings & Ratings\*\*

Strateov:	Weighting	Rel. to Mkt.:	

Weighting Rel. to Mkt.: Income: Growth: Income & Growth: Capital Appreciation:	Underweight Overweight Overweight In Line	(07-Mar-1995) (07-Mar-1995) (07-Mar-1995) (28-Jan-1999)
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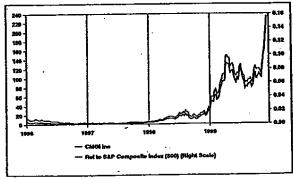
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RC#10135460

Merrill Lynch & Co. Global Securities Research & Economics Group Global Fundamental Equity Research Department

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Option Key (K-a-b-c): Investment Pists Pashing(X: A - Low, B - Average, C - Above Heavage, D - Pight, Appreciation Potential Rating (a: ML Term - 0-12 mo.; b: Long Term -> 1 yr.): 1 - Buy, 2 - Accounted as, 3 - Neathart, 4 - Mouse, 5 - Sail - S. No Rating, Incomor Rating(c): 7 - Sain-Highty, Res. 3-Sained-lower, 9 - No Cash (Nixford,
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in of any security or related investment mentioned in this report. In addition, investors in securities such as ADPs, who

21 December 1999

# **Morning Notes Summary**

Part 2

Bulletin

# Pharmacia & Upjohn (PNU; \$47 1/8; B-2-1-7)

The Numbers Tell a Prettier Story (Bulletin Ran 12/20/99)

99E \$1.80; 00E \$2.01; Market Cap.: \$25,164mn

- Pharmacia & Upjohn announced today that they are merging with Monsanto in a pooling of interest, tax-free transaction. If completed, PNU shareholders will get 1.19 shares of Newco while MTC holders will get 1.00 share.
- From the perspective of PNU shareholders this transaction is expected to be dilutive to EPS by 11% in the first year and accretive in 2001 and beyond. Our preliminary EPS figures for Newco are \$1.52 in 2000, \$1.96 in 2001 and \$2.57 in 2002.
- We therefore believe that today, PNU is worth between \$49-\$54 and could be worth \$60-\$62 12-18 months from now. We therefore believe that the poor reaction to the transaction has created a buying opportunity.
- The company plans on generating \$600 million in cost synergies. We have assumed that 33% of this figure will be delivered in each of the first three years after the transaction closes.
- 6-12 months after the closing, the new company plans to float 19.9% of its agricultural chemicals/biotechnology business, which we believe is worth 1.5 - 2.0 time sales.
- (S. Tighe/G. Gilbert/W. Holman

Merrill Lynch & Co. Global Securities Research & Economics Group Global Fundamental Equity Research Department

RC#11235509

# CMGI (CMGI; \$222 3/16; D-2-1-9)

Initiating Coverage with Accumulate/Buy (Bulletin Ran 12/20/99)

- We are initiating coverage of CMGI with an Accumulate/Buy rating and 12-18 month price target of \$300 (3X est. NAV of \$100/share). The stock is a core holding in our internet portfolio.
- CMGI's stock has performed exceptionally well over the last three years. CMGI's operating companies and venture investments have included 8 successful IPOs (with 2 more in registration) and 9 sales.
- CMGI's stock tends to trade as a proxy for the health of the Internet sector and Internet IPO market. We believe the stock will continue to be exceptionally volatile but trend higher long-term. Bottom line, CMGI is long the internet. As long as the public market for internet stocks does well, CMGI probably will, too.
- CMGI is an internet holding company that develops, operates, and invests in other internet companies. The company's holdings include majority-owned subsidiaries such as Alta Vista and more than 30 strategic minority investments across all sectors of the internet industry.
- Although the majority of CMGI's public holdings focus on B2C (advertising services, especially), nearly two-thirds of its investments are in the Infrastructure and B2B sectors. In addition, it is in the process of launching a new \$1 billion B2B fund, Asian and European funds, an infrastructure fund, and an ecommerce fund.

(H. Blodget/K: Campbell)

# Entrust Technologies Inc. (ENTU; \$53 11/16; D-2-1-9)

Relevance of VeriSign's Acquisitions (Bulletin Available) 99E \$0.09; 00E \$0.36; Market Cap.: \$3,259mn

- We are reiterating our intermediate-term Accumulate rating on Entrust.
- We are maintaining our 12-18 month price objective of \$75 based on 30x 2000 revenue.
- We believe that yesterday's sell-off was an overreaction to concerns that VeriSign's acquisitions would have a negative impact on Entrust's business.
- 50% of Entrust's revenue is generated by the B2B commerce market which is unaffected by VeriSign's acquisition of Thawte.
- VeriSign's acquisition will have no impact on Entrust's licensing of Thawte technology. VeriSign stated that Thawte would continue to maintain its relationship with Entrust for the duration of the
- Entrust's root key is embedded in Internet Explorer 5.0.1 and Windows 2000, reducing its dependency on Thawte technology.
- VeriSign's dominance of the web site certificate market will not impact Entrust's ability to provide client-side authentication solutions and PKI certificates for the fast-growing wireless Internet market.

(M. Fernandes/C. Shilakes)

[CMGI, ENTU] The securities of the cumpany are not isted but trade over-the-counter in the United States. In the US, retail sales and/or distribution of this report may be made only in states where these securities are exampt from registration or have been qualified for sale. MLPFSS or its affiliates assaily make a rearket in the securities of this company.

Opinion Key (X-a)-C; investment Flack Rating(IX; A Low, B - Average, C - Above Average, D - Above Average, D

s affixines, officions, offices, explayees and employee benefit programs ma int banking or other services for, or solicit investment banking or other busine repared for general circulation and is circulated for general information only rapport, Investors should seek financial advice reparting the appropriateness prospects may not be reafized. Investors should note that income from such



Bulletin

United States Internet Software & Services

20 January 2000

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Kirsten Campbell **Industry Analyst** (1) 212 449-3113 Kirsten\_Campbell@ml.com

# CMGI Inc

CMGI Sells Ad Properties to Engage

ACCUMULATE\*

Reason for Report: CMGI Sells Flycast, Adsmart

Long Term BUY

### \$122 3/8

Estimates (Jul)	1999A	2000E	2001E
EPS:	NA	NA	· NA
P/E-	NM	NM	NM
EPS Change (YoY):		NM	· NM
Cash Flow/Share:	NÀ	NA	NA
Price/Cash Flow:	NM	MM	NM
Dividend Rate:	Nii	Nil	Nil
Dividend Yiekl:	Nil	Nil	Nil

# **Opinion & Financial Data**

Investment Opinion: Mkt. Value / Shares Outstanding (mn): Book Value/Share (Oct-1999): Price/Book Ratio: 8.0x

D-2-1-9 \$27,656.8 / 226 \$15,22

# Stock Data

\$163 1/2-\$20 1/8 52-Week Range: CMGI/OTC Symbol / Exchange: Options: Institutional Ownership-Spectrum:

None 23.1%

# ML Industry Weightings & Ratings\*

Brokers Covering (First Call):

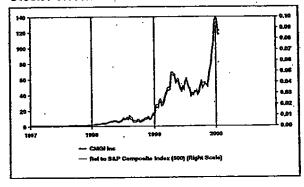
Strategy:	Weighting	Rel to	Mkt.:

(07-Mar-1995) Underweight Income: (07-Mar-1995) Growth: Overweight Income & Growth: Overweight (07-Mar-1995) In Line (28-Jan-1999) Capital Appreciation: (25-Oct-1999)

# Investment Highlights:

- CMGI announced today it would sell ad networks Flycast and AdSmart to Engage for \$2.5 billion in stock, approximately the net asset value (NAV) we were assigning these assets.
- Our current estimate of CMGI's net asset value is \$17.8 billion, or \$67.88 per CMGI share. At \$122, CMGI is trading at 1.8X NAV. This is an enormous discount to 9.0X NAV multiple of CMGI's best public comparable company, Internet Capital Group.
- So far today, Engage has traded up \$18 on this news. This represents a \$1.6 billion increase in NAV for CMGI shareholders, or about \$6 per CMGI share, suggesting \$18 in CMGI stock price upside based on a target 3.0x NAV multiple.
- We think this is another example of how CMGI creates value for shareholders through deft management of its public and private company portfolio, both financially and operationally.
- We are maintaining our CMGI 12-18 month price objective of \$150.

# Stock Performance



RC#10138620

Merrill Lynch & Co. Global Securities Research & Economics Group Global Fundamental Equity Research Department

Market Analysis; Technical Rating: \*Intermediate term opinion last changed on 20-Dec-1999.

<sup>\*\*</sup>The views expressed are those of the macro department and do not necessarily coincide with those of the Fundamental analyst. For full investment opinion definitions, see footnotes.

# What Has Changed?

CMGI announced today it would sell ad networks Flycast and AdSmart to Engage for \$2.5 billion in stock (comprised of \$1.9 billion for Flycast, the price which CMGI paid last week, and \$600 million for AdSmart), approximately the net asset value (NAV) we were assigning these assets.

So far today, Engage, in which CMGI now owns 75mm shares (87% of shares outstanding, vs. 39mm previously), has traded up \$18 on this news. This represents a \$1.6 billion increase in net asset value (NAV) for CMGI shareholders, or about \$6 per CMGI share, suggesting \$18 in CMGI stock price upside based on a 3.0x NAV multiple.

We think this is another example of how CMGI creates value for shareholders through deft management of its public and private company portfolio, both financially and operationally.

ENGA has recently been trading at upwards of 70x its consensus standalone revenues in expectation that it would be CMGI's marketing services consolidator. CMGI sold Flycast and AdSmart to Engage for a reasonable price-20-25x 2000E calendar revenues by our estimate. (Could it have sold those assets to Engage for \$1.6 billion more, or \$4.1 billion? Perhaps, but we do not think ENGA would have responded particularly well.)

In buying Flycast and AdSmart at a more reasonable price, and through synergies across its product lines, Engage is now trading at about 40x 2000E calendar revenues of \$200+ million (based on a \$95 share price and approx. 90mm shares outstanding), closer to DCLK, which is at 30x 2000E revenue. This is what the market wanted to

CMGI management stated that there were no imminent plans to roll AdForce (ad serving for web sites) and YesMail into Engage, though we would expect that to be the longer term plan. CMGI said it was expecting calendar 2000E revenues for AdForce and YesMail to exceed \$100mm, also higher than we expected.

Our current estimate of CMGI's net asset value is \$17.8 billion, or \$67.88 per CMGI share (this is always a moving target given that about 70% of CMGI's NAV come from public holdings). At \$122, CMGI is trading at 1.8X NAV. This is a very large discount to 9.0X NAV multiple of CMGI's best public comparable company, Internet Capital Group. Although newer to the market than CMGI, ICG

has focused more intently on developing a large and specialized senior management team at the holding company level, which should allow it to scale effectively. ICG is also focused exclusively on B2B and has fewer public holdings, which presumably leaves more immediate upside in its NAV. Over time, as CMGI continues to build out its operating expertise, launches its \$1 billion B2B @Venture Fund and continues to prove it is capable of successfully integrating the many companies it acquires, we believe CMGI's multiple to NAV could expand.

We are maintaining our CMGI 12-18 month price objective of \$150, though it was originally based on 3.0X NAV of about \$50. At its current NAV of \$68, the price objective represents a modest 2.2X NAV multiple which we believe is easily achievable. However, given the heavy mix of public companies in its NAV, it is easy to see that a correction in the sector would lower CMGI's NAV considerably, thereby spiking up the multiple again. Bottom line, we continue to believe that CMGI represents a good way for public market investors to be long the Internet. We reiterate our Accumulate/Buy rating.

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# Merrill Lynch

Bulletin

United States Internet Software & Services

10 February 2000

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Kirsten Campbell **Industry Analyst** (1) 212 449-3113 Kirsten\_Campbell@ml.com

# **CMGI Inc**

CMGI Acquires uBid

Reason for Report: Company Update

RESTRICTED\*

Price:	\$120 1/2	
Estimates (Jul)	1999A	·
EPS:	NA	
P/E:	NM	
EPS Change (YoY):		
Consensus EPS:		*
(First Call: 10-Jan-2000)		
Cash Flow/Share:	NA	
Price/Cash Flow:	NM	
Dividend Rate:	Nil	
Dividend Yield:	Nil	
Opinion & Financial Data	<u> </u>	

Investment Opinion: RSTR\* Mkt. Value ! Shares Outstanding (mn): \$27,233 / 226 \$15.22 Book Value/Share (Oct-1999): Price/Book Ratio: 8.0x NA ROE 2000E Average: NA LT Liability % of Capital: Est. 5 Year EPS Growth: NA

# Stock Data

52-Week Range: Symbol / Exchange: Options:

\$163 1/2-\$20 1/8 CMGI/OTC

Overweight

Institutional Ownership-Spectrum: Brokers Covering (First Call):

ML Industry Weightings & Ratings\*\*

Strategy; Weighting Rel. to Mkl.;

Income: Overweight Growth:

Underweight (07-Mar-1995) (07-Mar-1995)

Income & Growth: Capital Appreciation: In Line (67-Mar-1995) (28-Jan-1999)

Market Analysis; Technical Rating: Average

(25-Oct-1999)

# \*RESTRICTED. SOLICITATION OF COMMISSION ORDERS IS PROHIBITED.

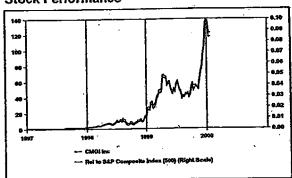
\*The views expressed are those of the macro department and do not necessarily coincide with those of the Fundamental analyst. For full investment opinion definitions, see footnotes.

Merrill Lynch & Co. Global Securities Research & Economics Group Global Fundamental Equity Research Department

# Investment Highlights:

- CMGI announced this morning a definitive agreement to acquire uBid.com in an all-stock transaction valued at approximately \$407 million.
- As a result of this transaction we are restricted on both stocks.
- This transaction represents approximately \$31 5/8 per share for uBid and a 19% premium to its current stock price of 26 11/16.
- The aquision is expected to close in May 2000, following shareholder and regulatory approvals.

# Stock Performance



RC#10104298

Merrill Lynch is acting as financial advisor and has rendered a fairness opinion to uBid Inc., in connection with its acquisition by CMGI Inc, which was announced on February 10, 2000. uBid Inc has agreed to pay a fee to Merrill Lynch for its financial advisory services, a significant portion of which is contingent upon the consummation of the proposed transaction.

The proposed transaction is subject to approval by shareholders of uBid Inc.

This research report is not intended to (1) provide voting advice, (2) serve as an endorsement of the proposed transaction, or (3) result in the procurement, withholding or revocation of a proxy.

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of this company.

Opinion Key [X-a-b-c]: Investment Risk Rating(X): A - Low, B - Average, C Above Average, D - High. Appreciation Potential Rating (a: Int. Term - 0-12 mo.;
b: Long Term ->1 yr.): 1 - Buy, 2 - Accumulate, 3 - Neutral, 4 - Reduce, 5 - Sell, 6
- No Rating. Income Rating(c): 7 - Same/Higher, 8 - Same/Lower, 9 - No Cash

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Foreign currency rates of exchange may adversely affect the value, price or income of any security or related investment mentioned in this report. In addition, investors in securities such as ADRs, whose values are influenced by the currency of the underlying security, effectively assume currency risk.



Comment

United States
Internet/e-Commerce

9 June 2000

Henry Blodget (1) 212 449-0773

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# **CMGI** Inc

Long The Internet

**ACCUMULATE\*** 

Reason for Report: Company Update

Long Term BUY

Price:	\$60	\$60 7/16		
Estimates (Jul)	1999A	2000E	2001E	
<del></del>	NA	NA	NA	
EPS:	NM	NM	NM	
P/E: EPS Change (YoY):		NM	NM	
Cash Flow/Share:	. NA	NA	N.A	
Price/Cash Flow:	NM	NM	NM	
Dividend Rate:	Nil	Nil	Ni	
Dividend Yield:	Nil	Nil	Ni	
Opinion & Financial Da	ta			

Investment Opinion: Mkt. Value / Shares Outstanding (mn): Book Value/Share (Jan-2000): Price/Book Ratio: LT Liability % of Capital:	D-2-1-9 \$16,922.5 / 280 \$20.79 2.9x 4.0%
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# Stock Data

52-Week Range: Symbol / Exchange:	\$163 1/2-\$33 1/8 CMGI / OTC
Options:	None
titutional Ownership-Spectrum:	21.0%
Brokers Covering (First Call):	8

# ML Industry Weightings & Ratings\*\*

Strategy; Weighting Rel. to Mkt.: Income: Growth: Income & Growth: Capital Appreciation:		(07-Mar-1995) (07-Mar-1995) (07-Mar-1995) (28-Jan-1999)
Market Analysis: Technical Rating:	Below Average	(28-Mar-2000)

\*Intermediate term opinion last changed on 20-Dec-1999.

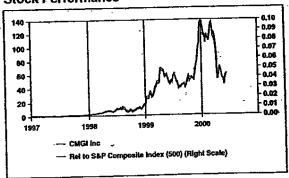
\*The views expressed are those of the macro department and do not necessarily coincide with those of the Fundamental analyst.

For full investment opinion definitions, see footnotes.

# Investment Highlights:

- We are writing an update and publishing our current model.
- CMGI is an internet holding company that develops, operates, and invests in other internet companies.
   The company's holdings include majority-owned subsidiaries such as Alta Vista and more than 50 strategic minority investments in all Internet sectors.
   The company's investments have included 6 successful IPOs and 7 sales.
- We rate CMGI Accumulate/Buy, with a 12-18 month price objective of \$100 (2.4X NAV of \$41/shr).
- The majority of CMGI's public holdings are B2C (advertising services, especially), but nearly twothirds of its investments are in Infrastructure and B2B. In addition, CMGI launched a new \$1 billion B2B fund, Asian and European funds, an infrastructure fund, and an e-commerce fund.
- Our main concerns about CMGI are 1) focus—the ability to manage subsidiaries and investments across such a wide range of sectors, and 2) the competitive positioning of some majority-owned companies (Alta Vista, for example, trails well behind the leaders in the portal market).
- CMGI tends to trade as a proxy forthe Internet sector and IPO market (i.e., when the sector gets hit, so does CMGI). Bottom line, CMGI is long the internet. As long as the public market for internet stocks does well, CMGI probably will, too. We believe the stock will continue to be volatile but trend higher long-term.

# Stock Performance



RC#20116127

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Merrill Lynch & Co. Global Securities Research & Economics Group Global Fundamental Equity Research Department

# Summary

CMGI is a holding company that develops, operates, and invests in Internet companies. The company's holdings comprise both majority-owned subsidiaries and strategic minority investments. The holdings are concentrated in the Internet content, commerce, community, advertising services, infrastructure, and B2B sectors.

Our basic internet investment strategy for aggressive investors is to allocate a small percentage of capital (10%) to a basket of high-quality Internet stocks. We would add CMGI to this group of core Internet names and we believe it has several characteristics that make it an especially compelling investment.

- CMGI will increasingly focus on international, infrastructure, and B2B – more nascent (read strong growth ahead) and larger Internet markets long-term than domestic B2C.
- CMGI, in and of itself, is a basket of investments. The majority of the investment holdings are private companies (although the majority of the estimated net asset value is derived from public and soon-to-be-public companies). Obviously, there is a large amount of risk in private-market investing. However, that risk is offset by diversity and by what we believe is the potential for a great deal of upside. Not all of CMGI's companies will grow to the sky; in fact, it is likely that some won't grow at all—and that's okay. In this industry, a few home runs offset dozens of strikeouts.

### ■ The Business

CMGI is a complex company with many moving parts. However, from 50,000 feet the company and its strategy are fairly simple. CMGI:

- Founds, invests in, or buys internet companies;
- provides capital;
- merges, splits, or otherwise re-organizes the companies (assuming this will enhance value);
- provides infrastructure and back-end fulfillment services (technology, hosting, content delivery, etc.), in part through CMGI Solutions, a majority-owned subsidiary dedicated to providing end-to-end e-business solutions;
- provides strategic, management, and marketing expertise, the latter through a network of advertising services companies; and
- promotes collaboration among the companies.
- CMGI plans to continue investing in Internet companies at a rapid pace, targeting 1-3 acquisitions and 4-6 @Ventures investments per month.

# Operating Companies

CMGI's majority-owned operating companies are on a \$1.2 billion combined revenue runrate, and include Engage (ENGA), NaviSite (NAVI), 1stUp.com, Activate, AdForce, AltaVista, CMGion, CMGI Solutions,

Equilibrium, ExchangePath, iCAST, MyWay.com, NaviPath, SalesLink, Tribal Voice, uBid.com, and yesmail.com. The company expects revenues to growth 20-25% each quarter, and to be on a \$2-2.5 billion runrate by calendar year-end. The company expects the number to consolidate from 17 down to 8-9 over time. For instance, obvious synergies might include folding AdForce and yesmail.com into the Engage network for advertising and marketing services.

### Internet Venture Funds

The Company maintains investments in seven Internet CMG@Venture funds. CMGI @Ventures has ownership interests in 57 companies, including Lycos (LCOS), Critical Path (CPTH), MotherNature.com (MTHR), Ventro (VNTR) and Vicinity (VCNT). The funds' track record includes six Internet IPOs, ten strategic company sales and three companies currently in registration.

While CMGI is known more for its B2C investments such as Lycos and GeoCities, nearly two-thirds of the companies in the current @Ventures portfolios operate in the B2B arena, including its newer CMG@Ventures B2B fund to be focused exclusively on business-to-business Internet venture capital investments. The B2B fund is expected to reach up to \$1 billion in capital, with CMGI as the sole limited investor.

### ■ Valuation

Valuing CMGI is difficult at best and futile at worst (estimated asset value plus option value leaves plenty of room for subjectivity). CMGI is highly volatile and with a market cap of \$14 billion (1.2X estimated net asset value), it is certainly not cheap. We believe, however, that CMGI will increase its NAV as the public market for Internet companies slowly recovers.

We rate CMGI Accumulate/Buy with a 12-18 month price objective of \$100 based on 2.4X estimated net asset value (NAV) of about \$41 per share. This multiple of NAV is higher than CMGI's historical average, which has usually been around 1X-2X NAV. This is compares to the 2.5X NAV multiple Internet Capital Group, and 1.5X NAV multiple of Safeguard Scientific. Over time, as CMGI continues to build out its operating expertise and proves that it is capable of successfully integrating the many public companies it has acquired in the past few months, we believe CMGI's multiple to NAV could expand.

CMGI will likely continue to trade as a proxy for the health of B2C (and now B2B) Internet companies and for the health of the Internet IPO market, both of which are largely sentiment and catalyst driven. As the Internet sector has cratered over the past few months, CMGI cratered along with it, down 60% from March. However, as long as fundamentals of Internet usage and e-commerce look strong, we belive the top names will recover, and CMGI will move along with, and possibly at a premium to the sector.

To perform a bottoms-up valuation analysis of CMGI we first add together four components to estimate a net asset value (NAV):

(Continued)

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CMGI Inc - 9 June 2000

- value of public holdings (which we estimate to be about \$6.5 billion),
- estimated value of companies projected to go public within the next year (\$1.8 billion post IPO trading value),
- estimated value of the remaining holdings (\$2.9 billion), and
- 4. \$350 million in cash, for a total net asset value of \$11.5 billion, or \$41per CMGI share.

We then consider two additional factors: 1) estimated change in the NAV of the current business over time, and 2) option value—or the estimated value of all new investments or other value the company might make over time. These factors, along with the second and third components of net asset value, are highly subjective, and can make the stock look either outrageously expensive—or quite reasonable.

As in other industries, Internet market leaders such as CMGI perpetually look overvalued. In most cases, they stay that way—and investors that buy and hold are richly rewarded. In this sector especially, we would rather pay up for high quality names such as CMGI than pay cheaper prices for lesser quality companies. Bottom line, CMGI is long the internet—and, in our opinion, represents a good way for public market investors to do the same.

# ■ The Business: Key Metrics

In our opinion, the three key metrics to track while following CMGI are: 1) the progress of integration of the advertising and marketing services subsidiaries (Engage, Adsmart, et. al.), 2) upcoming IPOS, and 3) the combined value of the company's top 10 holdings.

# Advertising and Marketing Services

CMGI's advertising and marketing companies create a powerful ad services network that can deliver services across the entire online marketing life cycle: profiling, advertising sales, ad serving and measurement. This is key strategic focus for the company- and for good reason: we estimate the U.S. online ad services market was \$4.2 billion in 1999, and is growing to over \$35 billion by 2005. By that time it will be bigger than magazines, radio and the yellow pages. While 9% of viewer time is on the Internet, only 1% of ad dollars are spent on Internet advertising. We believe ad dollars will soon follow the

CMGI has been on an acquisition spree in this space, and seems to have assembled all the necessary pieces to eventually create a full-fledged competitor to Doubleclick. CMGI owns 87% of publicly traded Engage, which provides ad targeting through anonymous profiles, and recently acquired then sold AdKnowledge, a profiling company, Flycast, an ad network and Adsmart ad network of branded web sites all to Engage. CMGI also recently bought yesmail.com, a permissions based email direct marketing company and ADTECH, the leading ad-serving

company in the European markets. CMGI owns AdForce, another ad network, and through its @Ventures arm owns about 5% of Radiate (formerly Aurate Media), an adserving software company.

There are many potential kieretsu-like benefits from this network of companies and from being a member of the CMGI family. However, while many partnerships and acquisitions have been announced, we believe there is further to go in evolving the CMGI/Engage model. We believe this integration and CMGI's ability to compete with DoubleClick will be a key metric to watch, and potentially a key driver of the stock.

DoubleClick will be a tough competitor for the CMGI ad services team, and to date has a large lead in both revenues and traffic as measured by ads sold or served. DoubleClick's DART currently delivers about 42 billion ads per month on one platform, versus CMGI's 14 billion across several different platforms. However, according to CMGI, Engage now has 62% reach, versus 50% reach for DoubleClick. That said, we do not believe this will be a winner-take-all market; our bet is that this becomes essentially a duopoly.

# New IPOs

We expect five of CMGI's consolidated properties (AltaVista, NaviPath, 1stUp.com, CMGI Solutions and MyWay.com) and four @Venture investments (Furniture.com, blaxxun, eGroups, and MyFamily.com) to go public within the next year. These liquidity events often serve as catalysts for CMGI's stock, particularly when the company going public represents a significant piece of CMGI's net asset value (such as Alta Vista).

However, volatile markets, such as the one witnessed recently can swiftly put a hold on all IPO plans. Even AltaVista, one of the bigger Internet IPOs expected for the year, was pulled indefinitely due to market conditions.

# Top 10 assets in portfolio

While CMGI has investments in over 70 Internet companies, we estimate that almost 80% of its net asset value is derived from its top 10 holdings. Of these ten, four are public companies (Engage, NaviSite, Pacific Century Cyberworks and Lycos). The remaining six are consolidated operating subsidiaries (AltaVista, uBid, iCast, AdForce, CMGion, CMSI Solutions.) We estimate the NAV of these top 10 to be \$9.1billion, or 79% of CMGI's total NAV.

# Key Issues

As a proxy for the internet, CMGI is an extremely risky investment. The risks include: volatility (50% moves in either direction with no change in fundamentals are normal), integration (CMGI has been buying 2-3 companies a month for the last six months), and the health of the public market internet sector in general.

CMGI Inc - 9 June 2000

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HAIR SECTION	A SARA TANGET INSTITUTE	A Bhere	Valuation	200 Back	THE REAL PROPERTY.		
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Bulletin

United States Internet/e-Commerce

14 June 2000

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Kirsten Campbell Assistant Vice President (1) 212 449-3113 Kirsten\_Campbell@ml.com

# **CMGI**

Strong Quarter; Still Liquid - Part 1

ACCUMULATE\*

Reason for Report: Company Update

(07-Mar-1995)

(07-Mar-1995)

(07-Mar-1995)

(28-Jan-1999)

Below Average (28-Mar-2000)

Long Term BUY

Price:		\$58		
Estimates (Jul)	1999	A	2000E	2001E
EPS: P/E: EPS Change (YoY):	N	A M	NA NM NM	AM MM
Cash Flow/Share: Price/Cash Flow:		IA M	NA NM	NA NM
Dividend Rate: Dividend Yield:	-	vii Vii	Nil Nil	Nil Nil
Opinion & Financial Data	<u>.</u>			
Investment Opi Mkt. Value / Shares Outstanding Book Value/Share (Jan-2 Price/Book I LT Liability % of Ca	(mn): 000): Ratio:	\$20.7 2:9x	22.5 / 280	
Stock Data			•	<del></del>
52-Week R Symbol / Exch Op Institutional Ownership-Spec Brokers Covering (First	ange: tions:		· .	<b>.</b> .
ML Industry Weightings &		g <b>s*</b> *		
Strategy; Weighting Rel. to		The	iobt	(07_Mar_1995

Market Analysis; Technical Rating: \*Intermediate term opinion last changed on 20-Dec-1999. \*\*The views expressed are those of the macro department and do not necessarily coincide with those of the Fundamental analyst. For full investment opinion definitions, see footnotes.

income & Growth:

Capital Appreciation:

income:

Growth:

Underweight

Overweight

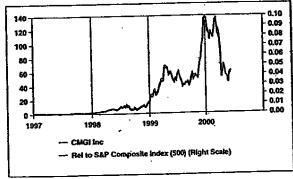
Overweight

In Line

# Investment Highlights:

- CMGI reported solid FQ300 results: strong revenue and traffic growth at its operating companies and initial or follow-on investments in 22 companies.
- Revenue from internet-segment operating companies increased 59% sequentially, as a result of both acquisitions and organic growth. Internet expenses, meanwhile, increased 39% seq., suggesting that the company is gaining leverage.
- Overall operating company revenue grew 47% sequentially to \$226mm. Including uBid, total revenue was \$310mm. CMGI expects the revenue in F2001 of \$2-2.5B.
- CMGI ended the quarter with \$517mm in cash and \$1.6 in marketable securities for total liquid assets of \$2.1B. At a current burn rate (including investments) of \$75mm a month, this liquidity will last 8-10 quarters. We expect CMGI to monetize additional holdings and to remain active in acquiring companies and making investments.
- CMGI tends to trade as a proxy for the Internet sector and IPO market. We believe CMGI will be volatile but trend higher longterm. We are maintaining our Accumulate/Buy rating and 12-18 month price objective of \$100 (2.5X NAV of about \$40 per share).

# Stock Performance



RC#10116645

Summary: CMGI announced a solid 3QF00 last night, reporting strong revenue growth, 115 million page views per day at CMGI operating companies, 60% reach for the Engage network, 8 acquisitions and the formation of CMGion.

CMGI's operating companies are showing strong revenue growth, although it is hard to isolate organic growth from acquisitions. Internet segment revenue grew 59% sequentially to \$183mm from \$114 in 2Q, and up 1,623% year/year. This was due mostly January acquisitions of AdForce and Flycast (both acquired January), 3Q acquisitions of Tallan and yesmail.com, and organic revenue growth at Alta Vista, Engage, NaviPath, NaviSite, 1stUp.com and iCAST.

Fulfillment service revenue grew 13% sequentially to \$43mm from \$83mm last quarter, and 30% year/year, due to increased sales to Cisco Systems and ramp of up of sales through SalesLink's new facility in Mexico.

Total operating company revenue in 3QF00 grew 47% sequentially and 417% year/year to \$226mm. Including uBid, total revenue was about \$310 million. CMGI expects the revenue of its operating companies (including uBid) to growth 20-25% sequentially next quarter to about \$370 million, and to about \$2-2.5 billion in F2001. CMGI is also focusing more on profitability- AltaVista should turn positive in the next 2-3 quarters, and CMGI Solutions should turn a profit in 4QF00.

Operating Companies: The power of CMGI's network was highlighted in the quarter by the many intra-network acquisitions and merger: Engage buying Adsmart and Flycast, Altavista buying Raging Bull, NaviSite buying ClickHear, AdForce buying AdTech, and CMGI Solutions buying Tallan. Other deals in the quarter included the acquisitions of uBid and yesmail.com, and a loyalty program with Netcentives for the over CMGI network. The company expects the number of operating companies to consolidate from 17 down to about 10 over time. For instance, obvious synergies might include folding AdForce and yesmail.com into the Engage network.

New to the CMGI family this quarter was CMGion. The company will attempt to develop a new Internet operating network service designed to enhance the performance and functionality of the Internet by internetworking NaviSite's web hosting data centers in conjunction with leveraging Engage profiles, creating a "smart" network that is geographically, bandwidth and device aware. Co-founding partners include Compaq, Novell, and Sun providing investments of \$20 million each, and various technologies.

CMGion is expected to have a beta product in the early fall. Engage revenue increased 86% sequentially, to \$58 million in 3Q. The company now has 70 million anonymous profiles, up from 52 million last quarter, served 36.5 billion impressions versus 26.3 last quarter, and has over 4,300 contributing sites up from about 3,200 last quarter.

Yesmail.com has grown its registered users from 3.5 million in December to 11.5 million by quarter end, and is adding 57,000 new opt-in users per day from over 100 sites. We expect this to increase dramatically when yesmail.com ads Egage, AltaVista and uBid to its sites. CMGI said yesmail.com is obtaining CPM rates of over \$200.

AltaVista continues to lag other portal leaders, though it is showing solid growth with 42% sequential revenue growth, 100mm pageviews per day this past week, and a secure place in the top 10. With site now up in Italy, the UK, Germany, Sweden, France and the Netherlands, over 50% of AltaVista's unique users are international. This should bode well for them as international should outpace US internet user growth.

<sup>[</sup>CMG] The securities of the company are not listed but trade over-the-counter in the United States. In the US, retail sales and/or distribution of this report may be made only in states where these securities are exempt from stration or have been qualified for sale. ALLPES or its affiliates issually make a market in the securities of this company.

Opinion Key [X-a-b-c]: Investment Risk Rating(X; A - Low, B - Average, C - Above Average, D - High. Appreciation Potential Rating (a: Int. Term - 0-12 m.c.; b: Long Term ->1 yr.); 1 - Boy, 2 - Accumulate, 3 - Neutral, 4acc., 5 - Sal, 6 - No Faiting. Income Rating(c): 7 - Samestiquer, 8 - Samestower, 9 - No Cash Divitions.

Opyniph 2000 Mentil Lynch, Pietre, Ferner & Smith incorporated (MLPES). All rights reserved. Any unauthorized use or disclosure is prohibited. This report has been precured and issued by MLPT&S and/or one of its sides and has been approved for publication in the United Kingdom by Merril Lynch, Pietral, Pi

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Bulletin

United States Internet/e-Commerce

14 June 2000

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Kirsten Campbell Assistant Vice President (1) 212 449-3113 Kirsten\_Campbell@ml.com

# **CMGI**

Solid Quarter; Still Liquid Part 2

**ACCUMULATE\*** 

Reason for Report: Company Update

Long Term BUY

Price:	•	\$58	
Estimates (Jul)	1999	A 2000	E 2001E
EPS:			NA NA
P/E: EPS Change (YoY):	17.		M NM
Cash Flow/Share: Price/Cash Flow:	-		NA NA IM NM
Dividend Rate: Dividend Yield:	-		Nil Nil Nil Nil
Opinion & Financial Data			<u> </u>
Investment Opin		D-2-1-9	
Mkt. Value / Shares Outstanding (		\$16,922.572 \$20.79	80
Book Value/Share (Jan-20 Price/Book R		320.79 2.9x	
LT Liability % of Ca		4.0%	•
Stock Data		<u></u>	•
52-Week Ra	ange:	\$163 1/2-\$33	3 1/8
Symbol / Excha	ange:	CMGI/OTO	2
Opt	ions:	None	
Institutional Ownership-Spect		21.0%	
Brokers Covering (First C	Call):	8	•
ML Industry Weightings & F	ating	gs**	
Strategy; Weighting Rel. to it	/Ikt.:		
łnc	ome:	Underweigh	
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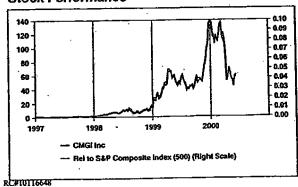
<sup>\*</sup>Intermediate term opinion last changed on 20-Dec-1999. \*\*The views expressed are those of the macro department and do not necessarily coincide with those of the Fundamental analyst. For full investment opinion definitions, see footnotes.

Market Analysis; Technical Rating: Below Average (28-Mar-2000)

# Investment Highlights:

- CMGI reported solid FQ300 results: strong revenue and traffic growth at its operating companies and initial or follow-on investments in 22 companies.
- Revenue from internet-segment operating companies increased 59% sequentially, as a result of both acquisitions and organic growth. Internet expenses, meanwhile, increased 39%. seq., suggesting that the company is gaining leverage.
- Overall operating company revenue grew 47% sequentially to \$226mm. Including uBid, total revenue was \$310mm. CMGI expects the revenue in F2001 of \$2-2.5B.
- CMGI ended the quarter with \$517mm in cash and \$1.6 in marketable securities for total liquid assets of \$2.1B. At a current burn rate (including investments) of \$75mm a month, this liquidity will last 8-10 quarters. We expect CMGI to monetize additional holdings and to remain active in acquiring companies and making investments.
- CMGI tends to trade as a proxy for the Internet sector and IPO market. We believe CMGI will be volatile but trend higher longterm. We are maintaining our Accumulate/Buy rating and 12-18 month price objective of \$100 (2.5X NAV of about \$40 per share).

# Stock Performance



CMGI@Ventures: CMGI@Ventures made investment in 10 new companies and 12 follow-on financings this quarter. The company indicated that it has been making investments in fewer companies, but taking larger stakes, and also shifting its investing criteria to companies with a clearer path to profitability. @Ventures also launched a \$1.5 billion Global Partners Fund with Hicks, Muse, Tate & Furst and Pacific Century CyberWorks. The fund will support the development of Internet companies based in Asia, Europe, and the Americas.

Liquidity. CMGI corporate ended the quarter with \$517mm in cash and marketable securities of \$1.6 billion. Total publicly traded holdings total about \$6.4 billion. At a current burn rate, including investments, of about \$75mm a month (\$225mm a quarter), this liquidity should support the company for 8-10 quarters. We expect the company to continue to monetize additional assets and raise additional cash. We expect CMGI to remain active in acquiring companies and making investments.

On the IPO front, we still expect IPOs within 12 months from operating companies such as AltaVista, CMGI Solutions, MyWay.com, and NaviPath. Other companies such as CMGion and 1stUp.com will likely be slated for an IPO, though the timing is less certain.

Valuation. From a valuation standpoint, CMGI is an "asset play" and is correlated to the stock performance of its public holdings, partner companies and the IPO market. With the IPO window still shut, CMGI likely has few near term catalysts. However, other liquidity events such as the sale of half.com to eBay can help the stock. We do expect the IPO window to reopen some time in the fall. At that time, liquidity events such as an AltaVista IPO could act as a catalyst for the stock.

CMGI tends to trade as a proxy for the Internet sector and IPO market (i.e., when the sector gets hit, so does CMGI). Bottom line, CMGI is long the internet. However, as long as fundamentals of Internet usage and e-commerce look strong, we believe the top names, including CMGI, will recover. We believe CMGI will be volatile but trend higher long-term.

Valuing CMGI is difficult at best and futile at worst (estimated asset value plus option value leaves plenty of room for subjectivity). CMGI is highly volatile and with a market cap of \$19 billion (1.7X estimated net asset value), it is certainly not cheap. We believe, however, that CMGI will increase its NAV as the public market for Internet companies slowly recovers.

We rate CMGI Accumulate/Buy with a 12-18 month price objective of \$100, or 2.5X est. net asset value (NAV) of about \$40 per share.

<sup>[</sup>CMG] The securities of the company are not fisted but trade over-the-counter in the United States. In the US, retail sales and/or distribution of this report may be made only in states where these securities are even islantion or have been qualified for sale. MLPFAS or its afficient issually state a market in the securities of this company.

Opinion Key (0-a-b-c): Investment Risk RatingOt; A - Low, B - Jevrage, C - Above Avestage, D - High. Appreciation Potential Rusing (a: Int. Term - 0-12 mo.; b: Long Term - 21 yr.; 1 - Boy, 2 - Accumulate, 3 - Net doubt, 5 - Sale 1 - No Fating. Income RatingOt; A - Same-Risery S - No Cash Dirident.

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# Merrill Lynch

Bulletin

United States
Internet/e-Commerce

21 July 2000

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Kirsten Campbell Assistant Vice President (1) 212 449-3113 Kirsten\_Campbell@ml.com

# CMGI

F4Q Preview

ACCUMULATE\*

Reason for Report: Company Update

Long Term BUY

# Price:

\$45

# 12 Month Price Objective:

Estimates (Jul)	1999A	2000E	2001E
EPS:	NA	NA	NA
P/E:	NM	NM	. NM
EPS Change (YoY):		NM	NM
Consensus EPS: (First Call: 08-Jun-2000)	•	\$-4.72	\$-3.86
Cash Flow/Share:	NA	NA	NA
Price/Cash Flow:	NM	NM '	NM
Dividend Rate:	Nil	Nil	Nil
Dividend Yield:	Nil	Nil	Ni

# **Opinion & Financial Data**

Investment Opinion: D-2-1-9
Mkt. Value / Shares Outstanding (nm): \$12,600 / 280
Book Value/Share (Jan-2000): \$20.79
Price/Book Ratio: 2.9x
ROE 2000E Average: NA
LT Liability % of Capital: 4.0%
Est. 5 Year EPS Growth: NA

# Stock Data

52-Week Range: \$163 1/2-\$33 1/8
Symbol / Exchange: CMGI / OTC
Options: None
Institutional Ownership-Spectrum:
Brokers Covering (First Call): 8

# ML industry Weightings & Ratings\*\*

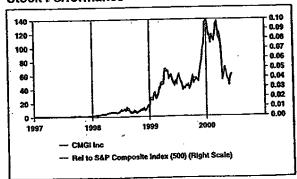
Strategy; Weighting Rel. to Mkt.: Income: Growth: Income & Growth: Capital Appreciation:		(07-Mar-1995) (07-Mar-1995) (07-Mar-1995) (28-Jan-1999)
Market Analysis; Technical Rating:	Below Average	(28-Mar-2000)

<sup>\*</sup>Intermediate term opinion last changed on 20-Dec-1999.

# Investment Highlights:

- CMGI (Accumulate/Buy rating) previewed its expected results for its F4Q00 ending July yesterday, indicating everything is on track.
- The company said its rate of investments had slowed due to both the market conditions and also that it is focusing more on enabling technologies now. CMGI expects the rate to tick back up in the fall.
- CMGI continues to expect the revenue of its operating companies (including uBid) to show 20% organic growth sequentially next quarter to about \$370 million, and to about \$2-2.5 billion in F2001.
- CMGI Solutions turned profitable this quarter as planned, and AltaVista should turn positive in the next 2-3 quarters. AltaVista fall IPO still expected. CMGI Solutions IPO expected "sooner rather than later."
- CMGI corporate currently has about \$369mm in cash, down from \$517mm at 3Q end. Total publicly traded holdings total about \$6.4 billion.
- Advertising CPM rates seen falling.
- Ubid selling 1,000 PCs devices per day (about 0.5% of the PC market).

# Stock Performance



RC#10156933

<sup>\*\*</sup>The views expressed are those of the macro department and do not necessarily coincide with those of the Fundamental analyst.

For full investment opinion definitions, see footnotes.

- CMGI (Accumulate/Buy rating) previewed its expected results for its F4Q00 ending July yesterday, indicating everything is on track. The company will not report actual results until Sept 21st.
- The company said its rate of investments had slowed due to both the market conditions with private valuations lagging public ones, and also due to the fact that it is focusing more on enabling technologies now, which has longer sales cycles and there are simply fewer of them. CMGI expects the rate to tick back up in the fall.
- CMGI will begin to break down its operating companies into 4 segments: 1) Ecommerce and fulfillment (Saleslink and uBid), 2) Marketing and services (Engage, Adforce, and yesmail), 3) Content and communities (Alta Vista, MyWay.com and iCast), and 4) Enabling technologies (Activate, Exchange Path, Tribalvoice, CMGI Solutions, Equilibrium, Istup.com, CMGion, Navisite, and Navipath). The company expects the number of operating companies to consolidate from 17 down to about 10 over time. For instance, obvious synergies might include folding AdForce and yesmail.com into Engage.
- CMGI continues to expect the revenue of its operating companies (including uBid) to show grow 20% organic growth sequentially next quarter to about \$370 million, and to about \$2-2.5 billion in F2001.
- The company said it is moving toward operating profitability for its subsidiaries, even with new initiatives such CMGion. CMGI Solutions turned profitable this quarter as planned, an AltaVista should turn positive in the next 2-3 quarters.
- CMGI corporate currently has about \$369mm in cash, down from \$517mm at 3Q end. Total publicly traded holdings total about \$6.4 billion.
- Operating Company Highlights Ubid.
- Selling 1,000 PCs and 2,000 PC-related devices per day (about 0.5% of the PC market)
- This quarter as much as 40% of buying could come from businesses up from 20% last quarter, due to uBids low prices due to their ability to buy in bulk.
- Having \$2mm days, up from \$1mm days when bought uBid this spring.
- Will set up distribution center in Memphis near Fedex. Engage
- 3,800 sites in network, collecting clicks from 5,000
- 70mm active profiles, up from 52mm last quarter
- Growing demand for profile driven ads.
- Has seen a slow down in ad sales, but doing very well on

- higher margin software sales. Yesmail.com
- 12mm subscribers-57,000 new subs per day. The company expects this to increase to about 100,000 per day as AltaVista is now incorporating yesmail across its site.
- CPM rates are slowing-peaked at \$213, now \$190. The company expects this trend will continue but that pricing elasticity will broaden demand. AltaVista.
- Fall IPO still expected unless the company were to do an acquisition, but would only do one if accelerated AltaVista's. path to profitability
- B2B search business has passed Lycos and Excite and is second now only to Yahoo in search referrals.
- #1 or #3 in shopping portal now, according to Neilson Net Ratings and Media Metrix, respectively (up from #23 or so in January).

### *iCast*

- Launched the latest version of its site today.
- Successful Land Your Band contest/promotion with Inifinity Broadcasting radio stations.

# CMGI Solutions.

- Currently profitable. Annualized sales runrate is \$120mm.
- Plans to do IPO "sooner rather than later." Navisite.
- Had a setback this quarter as some customers filed Chapter 11, but still had strong revenue growth. Istup
- Over 3mm downloads.
- Continuing declines in cost per hour of running sergvicenow in low 20 cents/hour from high 30's when it was acquired by CMGI. The company believes is can get to the teens,
- Hasn't seen dramatic increase in sales yet as they just turned on the Engage profiles, but they don't have an internal sales force yet. The company thinks it will be able to get higher CPMs with profile driven ads. CMGion.
- Will have a plan next week to show to telcos. CMGion will attempt to develop a new Internet operating network service designed to enhance the performance and functionality of the Internet by internetworking NaviSite's web hosting data centers in conjunction with leveraging Engage profiles, creating a "smart" network that is geographically, bandwidth and device aware. Co-founding partners include Compaq. Novell, and Sun providing investments of \$20 million each, and various technologies, with more partners expected. CMGion is expected to have a beta product in the early fall.

[CMCI]. The securities of the company are not ficied but trade over-the-counter in the United States. In the US, retail cases and/or distribution of this report may be made only in states where these securities are example. Opinion Key [X-ab-Ct. Investment Pick Rating(Ct. A-Low, B. - Merang, C. - Actors Averang, C. - Robert Averang, C. - Rober



Bulletin

United States Internet/e-Commerce

7 August 2000

Henry Blodget 212-449-0773 henry\_blodget@ml.com

# **Internet Sector**

Reset of Sector Ratings

Reason for Report: Sector Update

# Double Str

# Investment Highlights:

- We are resetting the investment ratings for our internet universe. The purpose of
  the reset is not to make a new "call" on the direction of the group but to provide a
  more precise differentiation of our current opinions (by using a wider range of
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- In our June 7th report, After the Fall: The Outlook for the Consumer Internet Industry, we argued that the going will likely be tough for even the best internet stocks for the next year or two, as the companies must grow into their valuations. We continue to believe this, although we would note that the extent of the recent pullback has made the valuations of certain companies look increasingly attractive.
- We believe that sector volatility will continue (i.e., that we will continue to see, to some extent, continued seasonal strength and weakness in trading levels). The timing of this reset relative to the current stock prices is, again, not a prediction of further weakness. In fact, we believe that many of the stronger stocks may be near seasonal bottoms.
- The primary goal of our research remains to provide an analytical framework to help investors evaluate the particular investment opportunities within the internet sector. Our ratings are not intended to represent short-term forecasts of stock direction (given the inherent volatility in the sector) but to provide a qualitative assessment of a company's business fundamentals and potential over the intermediate and longer term.

Merrill Lynch & Co.
Global Securities Research & Economics Group
Global Fundamental Equity Research Department

RC#10222001

Ratings Reset. Please see our comment for additional commentary on our ratings reset. Ratings for our coverage universe, in alphabetical order, are as follows:

- 24/7 Media (TFSM; \$11 7/16): was D-1-1-9, now D-
- Amazon (AMZN: \$32 1/2): remains D-2-1-9.
- AOL (AOL; \$52 3/4): remains D-1-1-9.
- Barnesandnoble.com (BNBN; \$3 3/4): was D-2-1-9. now D-3-1-9.
- Bottomline Technologies (EPAY; \$26 5/8): remains D-2-1-9.
- Buy.com (BUYX; \$3 21/32): was D-1-1-9, now D-2-
- CMGI (CMGI; \$37): remains D-2-1-9.
- DoubleClick (DCLK; \$35 3/16): was D-1-1-9, now D-2-1-9.
- EarthWeb (EWBX; \$14 1/4): remains D-2-1-9.
- cBay (EBAY; \$50 3/4): was D-1-1-9, now D-2-1-9.
- eToys (ETYS; \$4 1/4): was D-2-1-9, now D-3-2-9.
- Excite@Home (ATHM; \$14 3/8): remains D-2-2-9.
- Freemarkets (FMKT; \$51 11/16): remains D-1-1-9.
- Homestore (HOMS; \$30 5/8): remains D-1-1-9.
- Infospace (INSP; \$29 13/16): remains D-1-1-9.
- Inktomi (INKT; \$101 3/4): remains D-1-1-9.
- Internet Capital Group (ICGE; \$32 5/8): remains D-2-1-9.
- iVillage (IVIL; \$6 7/16): was D-2-1-9, now D-2-2-9.
- Looksmart (LOOK; \$18 3/16): remains D-2-1-9.
- Multex (MLTX; \$23 1/2): remains D-2-1-9.
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- Priceline (PCLN; \$24 L/4): remains D-2-1-9.
- Quokka (QKKA: \$7): was D-2-1-9, now D-2-2-9.
- Real Networks (RNWK; \$40): remains D-2-1-9.
- Safeguard Scientifics (SFE; \$28 15/16): was D-1-1-9, now D-2-1-9.
- VerticalNet (VERT: \$44 1/2): remains D-2-1-9.
- Yahoo! (YHOO; \$133 15/16): remains D-1-1-9.
- Webvan (WBVN: \$5): was D-2-1-9, now D-2-2-9.

Ratings Criteria. Most of the stocks at each rating have the following characteristics (we have made exceptions in some cases, with the reasons stated):

# Buy/Buy (1-1):

Dominant leader with a clean story in a sector with strong growth prospects.

- Profitable or on a clear path to profitability within 2-3 quarters (in the more mature sectors).
- Strong cash position: enough to reach profitability with plenty left over for discretionary investment.
- Valuation attractive, or at least justifiable, on a multiple of visible earnings or cash flow ("expensive" is okay, if fundamentals remain strong).
- Stock that we believe has a high likelihood of appreciating more than 20% within a year.
- High level of conviction about sector, company, management, and stock.

### Accumulate/Buy (2-1):

- Strong company with good growth prospects in a promising sector, or dominant sector leader with issues that we expect to be resolved.
- Profitable or on a clear path to profitability within the next 12-18 months (again, in the more mature sectors).
- Solid near-term cash position—enough to reach profitability.
- Valuation justifiable on a multiple of visible earnings or cash flow, or too expensive to be a 1-1.
- Stock that we believe has a high likelihood of appreciating more than 20% in 1-2 years.
- Comfortable with sector, company, management, and stock.

# Accumulate (2-2):

- Good growth prospects
- Improving financial performance
- Valuation justifiable
- Some uncertainties or reservations remain

### Neutral/Buy (3-1):

- Significant issues relating to intermediate-term
- A business model which we believe fundamentally "works"
- Long-term should be okay.

### Neutral (3-2):

- Challenging sector, or growth rate less than sector
- Not yet clear when able to turn profitable
- Needs additional cash to turn profitable
- Significant uncertainties or reservations remain

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Bulletin

United States

7 August 2000

Investor Support

# **Morning Notes Summary**

Part 2

# **Economics**

- The soft-landing scenario is playing as scripted.
- Consumer spending is slowing as the Fed wants, yet productivity-enhancing capital spending remains extremely strong.
- Crucially, labor market strains are easing, with private payrolls up a modest 138,000 for July and the unemployment rate remaining at 4%.
- The Fed will almost certainly be on hold at the August 22 FOMC meeting, and we expect it to be on hold thereafter.

(B. Steinberg)

# Internet Sector

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  reset is not to make a new "call" on the direction of the group but to provide a more
  precise differentiation of our current opinions (by using a wider range of ratings).
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Merrill Lynch & Co. Global Securities Research & Economics Group Global Fundamental Equity Research Department

RČ#11222011

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United States

Merrill Lynch

7 August 2000

Bulletin

**Morning Notes Summary** 

Part 2

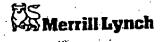
# Internet Sector Reset of Sector Ratings (Bulletin Available)

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- Please see our Bulletin and Comment for details on the rating changes.

(H. Blodget)

Merrill Lynch & Co. Global Securities Research & Economics Group Global Fundamental Equity Research Department





Comment

United States Internet/e-Commerce

7 August 2000

Henry Blodget 212-449-0773 henry\_blodget@ml.com

# **Internet Sector**

Reset of Sector Ratings

Reason for Report: Sector Update



# **Investment Highlights:**

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Merrill Lynch & Co. Global Securities Research & Economics Group Global Fundamental Equity Research Department

RC#30222006

Merrill Lynch Internet Sector Ratings				
			Rating	
Company	Ticker	Price	Prior	New
247 Media	TFSM	\$11 7/16	D-1-1-9	D-2-2-9
Amazon com	AMZN	\$32 1/2	0-2-1-9	NC-
AOL	AOL	\$52 3/4	0-1-1-9	NC
Barnesandnoble.com	BNBN	\$3 3/4	D-2-1-9	D-3-1-9
Bottomline Technologies	EPAY	\$26 5/8	D-2-1-9	NC
Buy.com	BUYX	\$3 21/32	D-1-1-9	D-2-2-9
EMGI	CMGI	\$37	D-2-1-9	NC
Dauble Click	DCLK	\$35 3/16	D-1-1-9	D-2-1-9
EarthWeb	EWBX	\$14 1/4	D-2-1-9	NC
eBay	ĖBAY	\$50 3/4	D-1-1-9	D-2-1-9
e Toys	ETYS .	\$41/4	D-2-1-9	D-3-2-9
Excite@Home	MHTA	\$14.3/8	D-7-2-9	NC
Freemarkets	FMKT	\$51 11/16	D-1-1-9	NC
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Multex	MLTX	\$23 1/2	0.2-1-9	NC
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Real Networks	RNWK	\$40	D-2-1-9	NC
Safeguard Scientifics	SFE	\$28 15/16	D-1-1-9	D-2-1-9
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Yahoo!	YHOO	\$133 15/16	D-1-1-9	· · · NC
Webvan	WBVN	\$5	D-2-1-9	D-2-2-9

Source: Memil Lynch equity research. NC = No Change

Company	Comment
24/7 Media	2nd/34 player in advertising services market. Core ad network bushess highly exposed to spending by dot-coms. Profitability possible, though not clear, before VE 2001. Macronities
Amazon.com AOL	Leador in corsumer e-commerce. Moving toward profitability. Need Visibility into long-term profitability and growth rate.  Made table accounts.
Barnesandnoble,com	
Bottomline Technologies	Solid, mature, and profitable corp electronic bitt presentment and pa
Buy.com	West Oz revenue led to reduce a construction of the construction o
CMGI	Diversified Internet Investment and necessity revenues. Surjudy Insignal Improvement, Nowever, Sofficient cash for breakeven in Q2 2002.
DaubleCilck	Dominant sector leader in advention services with strong ASP-based technology business. Profilable with sizeable cash position. Media hinchase less than the second to the second second to the second
EarthWeb	Nearing profitability. Valuation holys featurable at 16th me 20th annual
eBay	Sector leader, profitable, consistent. Not clear whether any manual in action to a consistent.
eToys	Stiff leader in children's products. Chaltenging segment as a result of extreme seasonality and high fuffilment costs. Solid Q2. 9-12 months of cash, then needs additional funding Profes
ЕхсівФНоте	Business plan remains in Jus. Value in premote and trongless has accommended a second
Froemarkets	More traction than any other BZB transaction platform; sufficient cash for breakeven in Q2 2002, Upside to estimates likely. Good revenue visibility. Competition will emerge, but company has significant lead. Price volatility despite consistency of fundamentals.
Homestore,com	Sector leader, about to turn profitable. Expect strong sectionally normaline il include to continue the section of the section
Infospace	Infrastructure services across PC, wireless, and broadband. Issue is integration risk and speed of wireless roll-out. Alich risk.
Internat Capital Craim	Leader in rework carbing software. Expect strong sequential license growth to continue. Upside to estimates, High risk,
menter vapilar Graph	v -
Wilage	Improving linancial performance. Competitive segment. Key question is size of revenue and many named in
Looksmart Multey	Leading directory services provider. Solid growth, leverageable model. Attractive valuation.
Websinte	America Visional in a Louis Land Control of the Con
Pets.com	recenting type document premandly, strong tasts postering. Incorporating Cyclering should help drive revenies and profitability. Attractive valuation.
Priceline	Sedor feeder, about to turn profitable Probably some inside in the PES entirely and analysis and sederate and a
Quokka	Strong bushess metrics and revenue growth. Remains a development-stage bushess however. Profitability 2 years out. Requires at least \$100mm in additional capital, by our current estimates.
Real Networks	Sector leader. Transitioning from ficense to media model.
Safoguard Scientifics	"Portfolio approach" for infrastructure investors. Performance tied to IPO and infrastructure market
VorticalNet	Divorsified B28 play. Profitability expected in Q2 2002: plenty of cash to get there. Must execute multi-faceted strategy, develop e-commerce revenues, and integrate numerous accurations. Expensive.
Yahoof	Global Reder With powerful financial modes and excellent homo-seminarian formationals are seminarian and accommendation of the seminarian and
Wohea	Configuration and the consistency of undamentals.
	Source Handworks, publishing targe apparatusly. Laptal interests Aggressive fight account in the San Fran. DC not yet performing to plan) and integration risk

# Ratings Criteria

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- Strong company with good growth prospects in a promising sector, or dominant sector leader with issues that we expect to be resolved.
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- Stock that we believe has a high likelihood of appreciating more than 20% in 1-2 years.
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# Accumulate (2-2):

- Good growth prospects
- Improving financial performance
- Valuation justifiable
- Some uncertainties or reservations remain

# Neutral/Buy (3-1):

- Significant issues relating to intermediate-term outlook -
- A business model which we believe fundamentally
- Long-term should be okay.

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- Challenging sector, or growth rate less than sector growth rate
- Not yet clear when able to turn profitable
- Needs additional cash to turn profitable
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IFFSL BRBN, BLYX, ETS., ONL. 97-1, UNA. 97-1, ULA. WOYN, AND. PRANS, BRST, LUCE, MYPT, PCIM, MLPFSL WAS a manager of the most meet public offering of securities of this present.

IFFSL BRBN, BLYX, EBAY, WL. PET, CRXA DCLK, WOYN, MAIN. EPAY, CMCR, EWBL, ATHAI, FIART, PROMS, BISP, BRXT, EGGE, LOOK, MYPT, PCIM, YHOO, RAWK, VERTJ. The securities where the United States. In the U.S., retail sales and/or distribution of this report may be made only in states where these securities are exempt from registration or have been as a state of the securities of this company.

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ems research report is prepared for general circulation and in circulated for given eron who may receive that legicat, hwesters stroubl seek theoretic obvice regarding tensors requiring have prospects may not be realized. Investors should note that the less than enjously invested. Parts performance is not receivery a guide to fame. Foreign converty rates of eichange may advantally affect the value, price or incom the converty of the underlying sociarity, affectively assume currency risk.

Merrill Lynch

Bulletin

United States Internet/e-Commerce

24 August 2000

Henry Blodget First Vice President (1) 212 449-0773

Kirsten Campbell Assistant Vice President (1) 212 449-3113

# **CMGI Inc**

Touchdown

ACCUMULATE\*

Reason for Report: CMGI and the New England Patriots

Long Term BUY

# Price:

# \$42 3/8

# 12 Month Price Objective:

Estimates (Jul)	1999A	2000E	2001E
EPS:	NA	NA	NA
P/E:	NM	NM	NM
EPS Change (YoY):	-	NM	NM
Consensus EPS: (First Call: 21-Aug-2000)		D\$4.90	D\$5.23
Cash Flow/Share:	NA	NA	NA
Price/Cash Flow:	NM	NM	NM
Dividend Rate:	Nil	Nii	Nil
Dividend Yield:	Nil	Nil	Nil

**Opinion & Financial Data** 

Investment Opinion: D-2-1-9

Mkt. Value / Shares Outstanding (mn): \$11,392.5 / 280

Book Value/Share (Jan-2000): \$20.79

Price/Book Ratio: 2.0x

ROE 2000E Average: NA

LT Liability % of Capital: 4.0%

Est. 5 Year EPS Growth: NA

### Stock Data

52-Week Range: \$163 1/2-\$33 1/8
Symbol / Exchange: CMGI / OTC
Options:
Institutional Ownership-Spectrum:
Brokers Covering (First Call): 8

# ML Industry Weightings & Ratings\*\*

Strategy:	Weighting	Rel.	to	MkL:

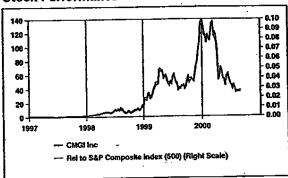
Income: Underweight (07-Mar-1995)
Growth: Overweight (07-Mar-1995)
Income & Growth: Overweight (07-Mar-1995)
Capital Appreciation: In Line (28-Jan-1999)
Market Analysis; Technical Rating: Below Average (28-Mar-2000)

Merrill Lynch & Co. Global Securities Research & Economics Group Global Fundamental Equity Research Department

# Investment Highlights:

- CMGI (Accumulate/Buy) and the New England Patriots today announced CMGI will purchase the naming rights for the new Patriots Stadium. "CMGI Field" is expected to open in 2002.
- CMGI will pay \$7.6mm/year for 15 years, with CPI adjustments in the last five years.
   CMGI will also receive additional promotional rights. In addition, CMGI operating companies will become preferred technology partners for the Patriots and New England Revolution (soccer).
- According to CMGI, the media market reach
  of the Patriots is 3<sup>rd</sup> in the US, and is expected
  to generate more than 2.6B impressions/yr for
  CMGI Field. Recent comparable stadium
  deals include Fedex (\$7.6mm/yr in the 8th
  largest market), and PSInet (\$11mm plus
  \$5.25mm/yr in the 24<sup>th</sup> largest market).
- The deal represents the beginning of a significant branding effort to showcase the size and reach of its network companies. CMGI will also begin to break out 4-6 operating segments. Increased awareness of the brand and a clearer understanding of the operating model could help fuel the stock, which has been lagging.

# Stock Performance



\* RC#10123719

Intermediate term opinion last changed on 20-Dec-1999.

<sup>&</sup>quot;The views expressed are those of the macro department and do not necessarily coincide with those of the Fundamental analyst.

For full investment opinion definitions, see footnotes.

CMGI Inc - 24 August 2000



# **CMGI Field**

CMGI (Accumulate/Buy) and the New England Patriots today announced a new marketing and technology partnership to include CMGI's purchase of the naming rights for the new New England Patriots Stadium. "CMGI Field" is expected to open in 2002.

Although CMGI will acquire the rights immediately, it will not begin payments until 2002. At that time, CMGI will pay \$7.6mm/year for 15 years, with CPI adjustments in the last five years (minimum \$114mm total). In addition to naming rights, CMGI will also receive significant hospitality, sponsorship and promotional rights both in and around the new stadium complex, as well as in the Patriots' larger marketing and advertising properties. The annual payments represent less than 0.5% of total CMGI operating company revenue, and less than 2% of the annual marketing budget.

According to CMGI, the audience and media reach of the New England Patriots (Boston/Hartford/Providence) is the third largest media market in the US, and is expected to generate more than 2.6 billion impressions annually for the new stadium. Recent comparable stadium deals include Fedex (\$7.6mm/year for Redskins Stadium in the 8th largest media market), and PSInet (\$5.25mm/year in the 24th largest media market plus an \$11mm upfront payment).

In addition, CMGI operating companies will become preferred technology partners for the New England Patriots and New England Revolution. For instance, NaviSite will host www.patriots.com, which provides video highlights, daily programming, statistics, news and schedules. Activate will manage webcasts of Patriots news and special events.

The deal represents the beginning of a significant branding effort launched by the company to showcase the size and reach of its network of operating and @Venture companies. As previously announced, CMGI will also begin to give more financial detail, breaking out 4-6 different operating segments including possibly:1) Ecommerce and fulfillment (Saleslink and uBid), 2) Marketing and services (Engage, Adforce, and yesmail), 3) Content and communities (AltaVista, MyWay.com and iCast), 4) Enabling technologies (Activate, Exchange Path, Tribalvoice, CMGI Solutions, Equilibrium, 1stup.com, CMGion, Navisite, and Navipath) and 5) CMGI@Ventures. The company noted that two of these

six are already profitable, and expects the other four to be profitable within a year. Increased awareness of the brand and a clearer understanding of the operating model could help fuel the stock, which has been lagging.

[CMG] The securities of the company are not fisted but trade over the counter in the United States. In the US, estal sales and/or distribution of this report may be made only in states where these recurities are exempt from septimizing or have been qualified for sale. MLPF35 or its afficients usually make a market in the securities of this company.

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United States



Bulletin

22 September 2000

Investor Support

# Intra-Day Special Note

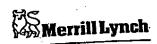
RTHM,CMGI

# Rhythms NetConnections (RTHM; \$8.06; D-1-1-9)

00E d\$8.20;01E d\$9.25

- Rhythms held a positive analyst conference yesterday updating the progress of operations. The company, recently prereleased ranges for third quarter results that were on target with our current estimates (revenues of \$17 million, EBITDA losses of \$117 million, and lines added of 15,600), and also stated that it is comforable with our fourth quarter and 2001 estimates (revenues of \$23 million and \$154 million, EBITDA losses of \$124 million and \$477 million, and line adds of 20,500 and 105,000).
- The company reiterated its belief that it can gain \$0 for line sharing as its permanent rates (unlike Covad which recently signed a 13-state deal with SBC for \$5.75 recurring charge per line), which should provide additional upside to gross margin, as well as to our net-line adds for the second half of 2001, as the provisioning cycle is decreased greatly. The company is also negotiating with a few of its vendors to shift its operating leases to capitalized leases (and shrink its amortization schedule to 5 years from 3), which could shrink EBITDA losses by \$30 million annually.
- The company is preparing to launch its updated back office infrastructure, with 4 new systems to be operational and fully integrated by November. We believe this will allow provisioning of new lines to double to 600 installs per day, from 300 today. This would put the company at a 6-9 month lag to its peer, Covad, which had a head start in launching its operations, and is currently at 1,100 installs per day.
- The company has gained access to remote terminals in Illinois, New York and Pennsylvania, although it must initially use the ILEC's digital loop carrier (DLC) equipment (mainly Alcatel line cards) in order to interface with the ILECs equipment (Rhythms expects multiple vendors to develop compatible line cards shortly). Nevertheless, this is a significant positive, allowing Rhythms deeper reach of its DSL services with greater speeds available to the end user.
  - Senior representatives from Level 3, Cisco, and excite@home also presented, discussing their joint marketing programs with Rhythms and Rhythms ongoing execution with its telework partnerships (such as allowing Cisco employees to rapidly obtain DSL at home). Cisco currently constitutes 10% of net line adds and 30% of the company's total installed line base (with a respectible average revenue per user of \$142, in-line with the company's average ARPU of \$140).
  - We continue to believe the company is funded until fourth quarter 2001, with options for cash conservation that may stretch out cash for one quarter. The company announced that it is reviewing multiple strategic options to provide further funding. Nevertheless, the company is at a cash burn rate of about \$150 million per quarter.

Merrill Lynch & Co. Global Securities Research & Economics Group Global Fundamental Equity Research Department



- The company also continues to expand its sales channels to include carrier, cable (excite@home), broadband integrators, and its own direct sales force. We expect to see an increasing percentage of lines added from residential customers, ultimately leading the company to 46% of total installed lines from residential at the end of next year (the remaining 54% from business customers), up from 35% today. The increase in residentail users should decrease ARPU from its current \$120 average, but should also significantly drive line growth as line sharing is implemented toward year-end 2000.
  - We reiterate our intermediate- and long-term Buy opinion on Rhythms NetConnections. Rhythms provides high bandwidth services over a nationwide, DSL-based network. The company currently has operations in 59 markets and 96 MSAs (1,530 central) office collocations) and should reach 70 markets or 100 MSAs (with 2,000 CO collocations) by year-end. The company recently turned free eash flow positive in its first market, San Jose, 1-year ahead of target, demonstrating the strong returns enjoyed by its DSL network. The company is also expanding internationally, with partnerships launched in Canada, and initial operations set up in Japan and Europe.

(K. Hoexter)

## CMGI (CMGI; \$36.44; D-2-1-9)

- CMGI announced 4QF00 results last night, breaking out for the first time revenue and operating losses by its 5 operating segments and its @Ventures arm. The break-out makes it much easier to understand the
  - Reported operating co. revenue in 4QF00 was essentially in line, growing 568% y/y and 62% seq. to \$377mm, versus consensus of about \$370mm. Adjusted operating expenses grew 42% seq., (although absolute losses increased). Organic revenue growth was about 21%.

- CMGI ended the quarter with \$654mm in cash and \$1.6B in marketable securities for total liquid assets of \$2.3B. At a current burn rate including investments) of \$93mm a month (up from \$75mm last quarter), this will last 8-9 quarters. The company believes, however, that 4 of 5 operating segments should be cash flow positive by FY-end 2001. We expect CMGI to monetize additional holdings and to remain active in acquiring companies and making investments.
  - CMGI trades at 1.0X estimated NAV of \$36. We are maintaining our Accumulate/Buy rating.

(H. Blodget)

Comment

United States Internet/e-Commerce

22 September 2000

Henry Blodget First Vice President (1) 212 449-0773 Henry\_Blodget@ml.com

Kirsten Campbell Assistant Vice President (1) 212 449-3113 Kirsten\_Campbell@ml.com

## **CMGI Inc**

FQ4 Results

ACCUMULATE\*

Reason for Report: Earnings Report

Long Term BUY

### Price:

### \$36.44

### 12 Month Price Objective:

Estimates (Jul)	1999A	2000E	2001E
EPS:	NA	NA	NA
P/E:	NM	NM	NM
EPS Change (YoY):		NM	NM
Consensus EPS: (First Call: 21-Sep-2000)			
Cash Flow/Share:	NA	NA	NA
Price/Cash Flow:	NM	NM	·NM
Dividend Rate:	Nil	Nil	Nil
Dividend Yield:	Nil	Nil	Nil
Opinion & Financial Data			

Investment Opinion:	D-2-1-9
Mkt. Value / Shares Outstanding (mn):	\$10,203.2 / 280
Book Value/Share (Jan-2000):	\$20.79
Price/Book Ratio:	1.8x
LT Liability % of Capital:	4.0%

### Stock Data

\$163.50-\$33.13 52-Week Range: Symbol / Exchange: CMGI/OTC Options: Institutional Ownership-Spectrum: 14.7% Brokers Covering (First Call):

### ML Industry Weightings & Ratings\*\*

Strategy:	Weightin	o Rel. i	o Mkt.:

Income & Growth:	Underweight Overweight Overweight In Line	(07-Mar-1995) (07-Mar-1995) (07-Mar-1995) (28-Jan-1999)
Capital Appreciation:	Relow Average	•
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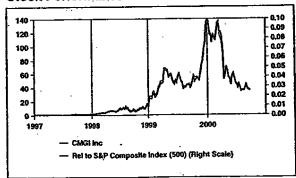
<sup>\*</sup>Intermediate term opinion last changed on 20-Dec-1999.

Merrill Lynch & Co. Global Securities Research & Economics Group Global Fundamental Equity Research Department

### Investment Highlights:

- CMGI announced 4QF00 results last night, breaking out for the first time revenue and operating losses by its 5 operating segments and its @Ventures arm. The break-out makes it much easier to understand the business.
- Reported operating co. revenue in 4QF00 was essentially in line, growing 568% y/y and 62% seq. to \$377mm, versus consensus of about \$370mm. Adjusted operating expenses grew 42% seq., (although absolute losses increased). Organic revenue growth was about 21%.
- CMGI ended the quarter with \$654mm in cash and \$1.6B in marketable securities for total liquid assets of \$2.3B. At a current burn rate (including investments) of \$93mm a month (up from \$75mm last quarter), this will last 8-9 quarters. The company believes, however, that 4 of 5 operating segments should be cash flow positive by FY-end 2001. We expect CMGI to monetize additional holdings and to remain active in acquiring companies and making investments.
- CMGI trades at 1.0X estimated NAV of \$36. We are maintaining our Accumulate/Buy rating.

### Stock Performance



<sup>\*</sup>The views expressed are those of the macro department and do not necessarily coincide with those of the Fundamental analyst. For full investment opinion definitions, see footnotes.

FQ4. CMGI announced 4QF00 results last night, breaking out for the first time revenue and operating losses by its five operating segments and its @Ventures arm, including cash flow break-even targets. The company also provided key metrics for each segment (though at this point we do not have prior metrics for comparison). While we believe the new focus on profitability is more clearly demonstrated by the new, detailed information, it will likely take some time for investors to digest the results of 17 operating companies, and assess whether CMGI can effectively stayed focused on all of them. The company expects the number of operating companies to consolidate from 17 down to about 10 over time.

Operating Companies: Reported operating company revenue in 4QF00 grew 568% y/y and 62% seq. to \$377mm, versus consensus estimates of about \$370mm. Adjusted operating expenses excluding in-process R&D and amortization of intangible assets and stock-based compensation charges were \$606.2mm, up 42% seq., significantly less than revenue growth, demonstrating CMGI's increased focus on operating company profitability. The only segments in which losses decreased in absolute dollars were Internet Professional Services and Interactive Marketing. All adjusted operating figures in the report exclude these charges. Including proforma uBid results, seq. revenue growth was about 21%. Management said it would give F2001 guidance in the next few weeks (prior guidance was \$2-2.5B rev. in calendar 2001), though it did indicate that four of its five operating segments should be cash flow positive by fiscal year end 2001.

Search and portals revenue (Alta Vista, Icast, MyWay) increased 6,208% y/y and 14% seq. to \$98.0mm, due mostly to AltaVista and iCast. Adjusted operating loss increased from \$77.0mm in F3Q to \$85.6mm, though it decreased slightly as a percentage from (89%) to (87%). Segment operating metrics included 62mm unique users and 85mm average daily page views in July, the majority of which are search related which garner the highest CPMs. Alta Vista is second only to Yahoo in search referrals, and greater than Lycos, the Go network and Excite combined. The search and portals segment is expected to be cash flow positive by fiscal year end, and AltaVista North America could be cash flow positive by calendar year end.

Infrastructure and enabling technologies (Activate, CMGion, Equilibrium, ExchangePath, NaviPath, NaviSite, Tribal Voice and 1stUp.com) revenue grew 938% Y/Y and 33% seq. to \$26.2mm, due to revenue growth at NaviSite. Adjusted operating loss increased from \$52.6mm in F3Q to \$70.2mm, and increased slightly as percentage from (266%) to (268%). Due to the earlier stage and capital intensive nature of these companies, this is the one operating segment that is not expected to be cash flow positive be year end. Metrics included: average annualized revenue per managed hosting customer of \$227,000, total data center "raised floor" space of 88,000 sq. ft., 15mm total streams, 44 terabytes of data transferred; 6.7mm ISP

subscribers; and 29.9mm recorded ISP usage hours in July.

Internet professional services (CMGI Solutions) revenue grew 24,096% y/y and 218% seq. to \$30.5mm, due mostly to reporting a full quarter of Tallan. Adjusted operating loss fell from \$6.4mm or (66%) in F3Q to \$1.5mm or (5%), and has turned cash flow positive since the quarter ended. Metrics included 391 billable consultants, and \$311,000 in annualized revenue per consultant.

E-business and fulfillment (SalesLink and uBid) revenue grew 275% y/y and 206% seq. to \$141.2mm due mostly to the acquisition of uBid. Adjusted operating loss increased from \$3.7mm in F3Q to \$5.2mm, but fell as percentage from (8%) to (4%). Metrics for the segment included 5.3mm unique users, and 306,000 items sold at auction. E-business and fulfillment is expected to be cash flow positive by fiscal year end.

Interactive marketing revenue (AdForce, Engage and yesmail.com) increased 457% y/y and 14% seq. to \$81.4mm, due to increases at Engage and Adforce and a full quarter of yesmail. The segment showed good leverage as adjusted operating losses fell from \$51.1mm or (71%) in F3Q to \$42.3mm or (52%) on the \$10mm revenue increase. Metrics included 79.3B ads served; 84mm unique, anonymous Engage profiles, 52.5mm emails served; and 11.6mm registered email members. Interactive marketing is expected to be cash flow positive by fiscal year end.

CMGI@Ventures: CMGI@Ventures invested in 2 new companies and made 12 follow-on financings this quarter, from 10 and 12 last quarter, respectively. Last quarter CMGI indicated it would take larger stakes in fewer companies. It clearly did this, though the amount invested has also fallen with market valuations from \$184mm last quarter to only \$55mm this quarter. CMGI@Ventures generated net pre-tax gains of \$132.4mm from the sale of Yahoo stock from the prior GeoCities sale, and from the sale of half.com to eBay. The return on liquidity events in F2000 was 589%. CMGI @Ventures is cash-flow positive, and has been since inception.

Liquidity. CMGI corporate ended the quarter with \$654mm in cash and equivalents, and available for sale securities of \$1.6B as of the market close yesterday. Total publicly traded holdings total about \$5 billion. At a current burn rate, including investments, of about \$93mm a month (\$279mm a quarter up from \$225 rate last quarter), this liquidity should support the company for 8-9 quarters. However, this presumes no more liquidity events, and no decrease in the current burn, which would not be the case if indeed 4 of the 5 operating segments are cash flow positive by fiscal year end (July). We expect the company to continue to monetize additional assets and remain active in acquiring companies and making investments.

Valuation. CMGI's stock performance is correlated to that

(Continued)

of its public holdings, partner companies and liquidity events, which rely heavily on the IPO market. With the IPO window still shut, CMGI likely has few near term catalysts. However, other types of liquidity events such as the sale of half-com to eBay and eGroups to Yahoo can help the stock. We expect Alta Vista to attempt an IPO in the March quarter, by which time we expect the IPO window to be back open.

We estimate the company's NAV to be about \$36 a share—about where it is trading. Valuing CMGI is difficult (estimated asset value plus option value leaves plenty of room for subjectivity). CMGI tends to trade as a proxy for the Internet sector and IPO market (i.e., when the sector gets hit, so does CMGI). Bottom line, CMGI is long the internet. As long as fundamentals of Internet usage and e-commerce look strong, we believe the top names, including CMGI, will recover. We rate CMGI Accumulate/Buy.

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Bulletin

United States Internet/e-Commerce

22 September 2000

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Kirsten Campbell Assistant Vice President (1) 212 449-3113 Kirsten\_Campbell@ml.com

## **CMGI** Inc

FQ4 Results, Part 1

ACCUMULATE\*

Reason for Report: Earnings Report

Long Term BUY

### Price:

### \$36.44

### 12 Month Price Objective:

Estimates (Jul)	1999A	2000E	2001E
EPS:	N'A	NA	NA
P/E:	NM	NM	· NM
EPS Change (YoY):		NM	NM
Consensus EPS: (First Call: 21-Sep-2000)			
Cash Flow/Share:	NA	NA	NA
Price/Cash Flow:	NM	MM	NM
Dividend Rate:	: Nil	Nil	Nil
Dividend Yield:	Nil	Nil	Nil

### Opinion & Financial Data

	D-2-1-9	
Mkt. Value / Shares Outstanding (mm):	\$10,203.27280	
Book Value/Share (Jan-2000):	\$20.79	
Price/Book Ratio:	1.8x	
LT Liability % of Capital:	4.0%	

### Stock Data

52-Week Range: \$163.50-\$33.13
Symbol / Exchange: CMGI / OTC
Options: None
Institutional Ownership-Spectrum: 14.7%
Brokers Covering (First Call): 8

### ML Industry Weightings & Ratings\*\*

-			
Strategy:	Weighting	Rel. to	Mkt.:

PRINCELL ALGERTHIS VOT TO MAKE.		
Income:	Underweight	(07-Mar-1995)
Growth:	Overweight	(07-Mar-1995)
Income & Growth:	Overweight	(07-Mar-1995)
Capital Appreciation:	in Line	(28-Jan-1999)
Market Analysis; Technical Rating:	Below Average	(28-Mar-2000)

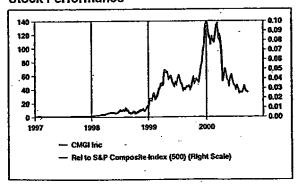
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- CMGI trades at 1.0X estimated NAV of \$36.
   We are maintaining our Accumulate/Buy rating.

### **Stock Performance**



<sup>\*\*</sup>The views expressed are those of the macro department and do not necessarily coincide with those of the Fundamental analyst. For full investment opinion definitions, see footnotes.

FQ4. CMGI announced 4QF00 results last night, breaking out for the first time revenue and operating losses by its five operating segments and its @Ventures arm, including cash flow break-even targets. The company also provided key metrics for each segment (though at this point we do not have prior metrics for comparison). While we believe the new focus on profitability is more clearly demonstrated by the new, detailed information, it will likely take some time for investors to digest the results of 17 operating companies, and assess whether CMGI can effectively stayed focused on all of them. The company expects the number of operating companies to consolidate from 17 down to about 10 over time.

Operating Companies: Reported operating company revenue in 4QF00 grew 568% y/y and 62% seq. to \$377mm, versus consensus estimates of about \$370mm. Adjusted operating expenses excluding in-process R&D and amortization of intangible assets and stock-based compensation charges were \$606.2mm, up 42% seq., significantly less than revenue growth, demonstrating CMGI's increased focus on operating company profitability. The only segments in which losses decreased in absolute dollars were Internet Professional Services and Interactive Marketing. All adjusted operating figures in the report exclude these charges. Including proforma uBid results, seq. revenue growth was about 21%. Management said it would give F2001 guidance in the next few weeks (prior guidance was \$2-2.5B rev. in calendar 2001), though it did indicate that four of its five operating segments should be cash flow positive by fiscal year end 2001.

Search and portals revenue (Alta Vista, Icast, MyWay) increased 6,208% y/y and 14% seq. to \$98.0mm, due mostly to AltaVista and iCast. Adjusted operating loss increased from \$77.0mm in F3Q to \$85.6mm, though it decreased slightly as a percentage from (89%) to (87%). Segment operating metrics included 62mm unique users and 85mm average daily page views in July, the majority of which are search related which garner the highest CPMs. Alta Vista is second only to Yahoo in search referrals, and greater than Lycos, the Go network and Excite combined. The search and portals segment is expected to be cash flow positive by fiscal year end, and AltaVista North America could be cash flow positive by calendar year end.

Infrastructure and enabling technologies (Activate, CMGion, Equilibrium, ExchangePath, NaviPath, NaviSite, Tribal Voice and 1stUp.com) revenue grew 938% Y/Y and 33% seq. to \$26.2mm, due to revenue growth at NaviSite. Adjusted operating loss increased from \$52.6mm in F3Q to \$70.2mm, and increased slightly as percentage from (266%) to (268%). Due to the earlier stage and capital intensive nature of these companies, this is the one operating segment that is not expected to be cash flow positive be year end. Metries included: average annualized revenue per managed hosting customer of \$227,000, total data center "raised floor" space of 88,000 sq. ft., 15mm total streams, 44 terabytes of data transferred; 6.7mm ISP subscribers; and 29.9mm recorded ISP usage hours in July.

Internet professional services (CMGI Solutions) revenue grew 24,096% y/y and 218% seq. to \$30.5mm, due mostly to reporting a full quarter of Tallan. Adjusted operating loss fell from \$6.4mm or (66%) in F3Q to \$1.5mm or (5%), and has turned cash flow positive since the quarter ended. Metrics included 391 billable consultants, and \$311,000 in annualized revenue per consultant.

E-business and fulfillment (SalesLink and uBid) revenue grew 275% y/y and 206% seq. to \$141.2mm due mostly to the acquisition of uBid. Adjusted operating loss increased from \$3.7mm in F3Q to \$5.2mm, but fell as percentage from (8%) to (4%). Metrics for the segment included 5.3mm unique users, and 306,000 items sold at auction. E-business and fulfillment is expected to be cash flow positive by fiscal year end.

Interactive marketing revenue (AdForce, Engage and yesmail.com) increased 457% y/y and 14% seq. to \$81.4mm, due to increases at Engage and Adforce and a full quarter of yesmail. The segment showed good leverage as adjusted operating losses fell from \$51.1mm or (71%) in F3Q to \$42.3mm or (52%) on the \$10mm revenue increase. Metrics included 79.3B ads served; 84mm unique, anonymous Engage profiles, 52.5mm emails served; and 11.6mm registered email members. Interactive marketing is expected to be cash flow positive by fiscal year end.

(\*Note: Continued in "FQ4 Results, Part 2")

<sup>[</sup>CMGI] The securities of the company are not listed but trade ever-the-counter in the United States. In the US, retail sales and/or distribution of this report may be made only in states where these securities are exempt from registration or have been qualified for sale. MLPFES or its afficiate usually make a market in the securities of this company.

Opinion (for [X-b-c]: Investment flish Rating(0): A - Low, B - Average, C - Above Average, D - High. Appreciation Polestial Rating (as int. Term - 0-12 mm.; b): Long Term -> 1 yr.): 1 - Boy, 2 - Accumulate, 3 - Neutral, 4 (Roduce, 5 - Sele, 6 - No Fatting, Income Pating(c): 7 - Seame-frighter, 8 - Seame-furewer, 3 - No Cash Dividend.

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Bulletin

United States Internet/e-Commerce

22 September 2000

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## **CMGI Inc**

FQ4 Results, Part 2

ACCUMULATE\*

Reason for Report: Earnings Report

Long Term BUY

Price:

\$36.44

12 Month Price Objective:

Estimates (Jul)	1999A	2000E	2001E
EPS:	NA	NA	NA
P/E: ·	NM	NM	NM
EPS Change (YoY):		NM	NM
Consensus EPS: (First Call: 21-Sep-2000)			
Cash Flow/Share:	. NA	NA	NA
Price/Cash Flow:	NM	NM	NM
Dividend Rate:	Nil	Nil	Nil
Dividend Yield:	Nii	Nii	Nil

Opinion & Financial Data

Investment Opinion: D-2-1-9
Mkt. Value / Shares Outstanding (ma): \$10,203.2 / 280
Book Value/Share (Jan-2000): \$20.79
Price/Book Ratio: 1.8x
LT Liability % of Capital: 4.0%

Stock Data

52-Week Range: \$163.50-\$33.13
Symbol / Exchange: CMGI / OTC
Options: None
Institutional Ownership-Spectrum: 14.7%
Brokers Covering (First Call): 8

### ML Industry Weightings & Ratings\*\*

Strategy; Weighting Rel. to Mkt.:

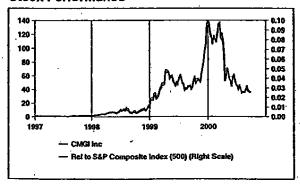
Income: Underweight (07-Mar-1995)
Growth: Overweight (07-Mar-1995)
Income & Growth: Overweight (07-Mar-1995)
Capital Appreciation: In Line (28-Jan-1999)
Market Analysis; Technical Rating: Below Average (28-Mar-2000)

Merrill Lynch & Co. Global Securities Research & Economics Group Global Fundamental Equity Research Department

### **Investment Highlights:**

- CMGI announced 4QF00 results last night, breaking out for the first time revenue and operating losses by its 5 operating segments and its @Ventures arm. The break-out makes it much easier to understand the business,
- Reported operating co. revenue in 4QF00 was essentially in line, growing 568% y/y and 62% seq. to \$377mm, versus consensus of about \$370mm. Adjusted operating expenses grew 42% seq., (although absolute losses increased).
   Organic revenue growth was about 21%.
- CMGI ended the quarter with \$654mm in cash and \$1.6B in marketable securities for total liquid assets of \$2.3B. At a current burn rate (including investments) of \$93mm a month (up from \$75mm last quarter), this will last 8-9 quarters. The company believes, however, that 4 of 5 operating segments should be cash flow positive by FY-end 2001. We expect CMGI to monetize additional holdings and to remain active in acquiring companies and making investments.
- CMGI trades at 1.0X estimated NAV of \$36.
   We are maintaining our Accumulate/Buy rating.

### **Stock Performance**



Intermediate term opinion last changed on 20-Dec-1999.

<sup>\*\*</sup>The views expressed are those of the macro department and do not necessarily coincide with those of the Fundamental analyst. For full investment opinion definitions, see footnotes.

(\*Note: Continued from "FQ4 Results, Part 1")

CMGI@Ventures: CMGI@Ventures invested in 2 new companies and made 12 follow-on financings this quarter, from 10 and 12 last quarter, respectively. Last quarter CMGI indicated it would take larger stakes in fewer companies. It clearly did this, though the amount invested has also fallen with market valuations from \$184mm last quarter to only \$55mm this quarter. CMGI@Ventures generated net pre-tax gains of \$132.4mm from the sale of Yahoo stock from the prior GeoCities sale, and from the sale of half.com to eBay. The return on liquidity events in F2000 was 589%. CMGI @Ventures is cash-flow positive, and has been since inception.

Liquidity. CMGI corporate ended the quarter with \$654mm in cash and equivalents, and available for sale securities of \$1.6B as of the market close yesterday. Total publicly traded holdings total about \$5 billion. At a current burn rate, including investments, of about \$93mm a month (\$279mm a quarter up from \$225 rate last quarter), this liquidity should support the company for 8-9 quarters. However, this presumes no more liquidity events, and no decrease in the current burn, which would not be the case if indeed 4 of the 5 operating segments are cash flow positive by fiscal year end (July). We expect the company to continue to monetize additional assets and remain active in acquiring companies and making investments.

Valuation. CMGI's stock performance is correlated to that of its public holdings, partner companies and liquidity events, which rely heavily on the IPO market. With the IPO window still shut, CMGI likely has few near term catalysts. However, other types of liquidity events such as the sale of half.com to eBay and eGroups to Yahoo can help the stock. We expect Alta Vista to attempt an IPO in the March quarter, by which time we expect the IPO window to be back open.

We estimate the company's NAV to be about \$36 a share—about where it is trading. Valuing CMGI is difficult (estimated asset value plus option value leaves plenty of room for subjectivity). CMGI tends to trade as a proxy for the Internet sector and IPO market (i.e., when the sector gets hit, so does CMGI). Bottom line, CMGI is long the internet. As long as fundamentals of Internet usage and e-commerce look strong, we believe the top names, including CMGI, will recover. We rate CMGI Accumulate/Buy.

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Opinion Key IX-8-b; Investment Risk Raling(IX; A - Low, IB - Ayreage, C - Above Average, D - High, Appreciation Potential Raling (at Inf. Terms - 0-12 are; bt Long Terms ->1 yr.; 1 - Buy, 2 - Accumulate, 3 - Neutral, 4 - Reduce, 5 - Sold, 5 - Net Raling, from Particulator, 2 - Samethrine. 8 - Samethrees 9 - Ms Carbo Thirdinant

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Foreign currency takes of exchange may adversely affect the value, prict by the currency of the underbies security, effectively assume currency risk.

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Comment

United States Internet/e-Commerce

4 October 2000

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## **CMGI** Inc

**Recent Weakness** 

**ACCUMULATE\*** 

Reason for Report: Update

Long Term BUY

### Price:

\$24.25

### 12 Month Price Objective:

Estimates (Jul)	2000A	2001E
EPS:	NA.	· NA
P/E:	NM ·	NM
EPS Change (YoY):		NM
Consensus EPS: (First Call: 02-Oct-2000)		\$-5.44
Cash Flow/Share:	NA	NA
Price/Cash Flow:	NM	NM
Dividend Rate:	Nii	Nil
Dividend Yield:	Nil	Nil

### Opinion & Financial Data

Investment Opinion: D-2-1-9
Mkt. Value / Shares Outstanding (mn): \$6,685 / 280
Book Value/Share (Jan-2000): \$20.79
Price/Book Ratio: 1.1x
LT Liability % of Capital: 4.0%

### Stock Data

52-Week Range: \$163.50-\$23.00
Symbol / Exchange: CMGI / OTC
Options: None
Institutional Ownership-Spectrum: 14.7%
Brokers Covering (First Call): 4

### ML Industry Weightings & Ratings\*\*

Strategy:	Weighting	Rel 1	o Mkt.:

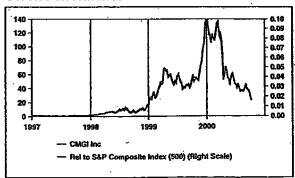
Income: Underweight (07-Mar-1995)
Growth: Overweight (07-Mar-1995)
Income & Growth: Overweight (07-Mar-1995)
Capital Appreciation: In Line (28-Jan-1999)

Market Analysis; Technical Rating: Below Average (28-Mar-2000)
\*Intermediate term opinion last changed on 20-Dec-1999.

### Investment Highlights:

- CMGI stock has been very weak recently, down 35% in the last two weeks.
- As a proxy for the internet sector, CMGI gets hit doubly hard when the sector is weak. CMGI's stock performance is fied to both its NAV, and the NAV multiple investors are willing to pay.
- Since CMGI holds a basket of internet stocks, its NAV (50% of which are publicly traded internet stocks) has dropped as the sector has declined. We estimate NAV is now about \$25, down from NAV of \$36 about two weeks ago.
- With a declining NAV, improved stock performance would require multiple expansion, which is unlikely in this environment, especially because CMGI's cash position is starting to become an issue.
- At end of the July quarter, CMGI had \$654mm in cash. At July's burnrate of 93mm, this would last about 7 months. Therefore the company will either have to 1) raise additional cash or 2) sell some of its holdings or marketable securities, which at end of July were valued at \$1.6B, or 3) significantly reduce its cash burn.
- The company believes, however, that 4 of 5 operating segments should be cash flow positive by FY-end 2001 (July). We expect CMGI to monetize additional holdings and to

### Stock Performance



RC#20127867

Merrill Lynch & Co. Global Securities Research & Economics Group Global Fundamental Equity Research Department

<sup>\*\*</sup>The views expressed are those of the macro department and do not necessarily coincide with those of the Fundamental analyst.

For full investment opinion definitions, see footnotes.

CMGI Inc - 4 October 2000

Merrill Lynch

remain active in acquiring companies and making investments.

 CMGI trades at 1.0X estimated NAV of \$25, at the low end of its 1-2X historical range. We do not expect the multiple to expand in an environment of worsening sentiment unless CMGI can illustrate that its operating divisions are making strong progress towards turning cash flow positive.

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Bulletin

United States Internet/e-Commerce

4 October 2000

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Kirsten Campbell Assistant Vice President (1) 212 449-3113 Kirsten\_Campbell@ml.com

## **CMGI Inc**

Recent Weakness

ACCUMULATE\*

Reason for Report: Update

Long Term BUY

### Price:

\$24.25

### 12 Month Price Objective:

Estimates (Jul)	2000A	2001E
EPS:	NA	. NA
P/E:	NM	NM
EPS Change (YoY):		NM
Consensus EPS: (First Call: 02-Oct-2000)		\$-5.44
Cash Flow/Share:	NA	NA
Price/Cash Flow:	' NM	NM
Dividend Rate:	Nii	Nil
Dividend Yield:	Nil -	Nil

### Opinion & Financial Data

Investment Opinion:	D-2-1-9
Mkt. Value / Shares Outstanding (mn):	\$6,685 / 280
Book Value/Share (Jan-2000):	\$20.79
Price/Book Ratio:	l.lx
LT Liability % of Capital:	4.0%

### Stock Data

52-Week Range: \$163.50-\$23.00
Symbol / Exchange: CMGI / OTC
Options: None
Institutional Ownership-Spectrum: 14.7%
Brokers Covering (First Call): 4

### ML industry Weightings & Ratings\*\*

Strategy:	Weighting	Rel. to Mkt.:

Underweight	(07-Mar-1995)
Overweight	(07-Mar-1995)
Overweight	(07-Mar-1995)
in Line	(28-Jan-1999)

Market Analysis; Technical Rating: Below Average (28-Mar-2000).

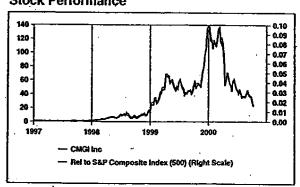
\*Intermediate term opinion last changed on 20-Dec-1999.

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Global Fundamental Equity Research Department

### **Investment Highlights:**

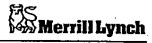
- CMGI stock has been very weak recently, down 35% in the last two weeks.
- As a proxy for the internet sector, CMGI gets hit doubly hard when the sector is weak. CMGI's stock performance is tied to both its NAV, and the NAV multiple investors are willing to pay.
- Since CMGI holds a basket of internet stocks, its NAV (50% of which are publicly traded internet stocks) has dropped as the sector has declined. We estimate NAV is now about \$25, down from NAV of \$36 about two weeks ago.
- With a declining NAV, improved stock performance would require multiple expansion, which is unlikely in this environment, especially because CMGI's cash position is starting to become an issue.
- At end of the July quarter, CMGI had \$654mm in cash. At July's burnrate of 93mm, this would last about 7 months. Therefore the company will either have to 1) raise additional cash or 2) sell some of its holdings or marketable securities, which at end of July were valued at \$1.6B, or 3) significantly reduce its cash burn.
- The company believes, however, that 4 of 5'
  operating segments should be cash flow
  positive by FY-end 2001 (July). We expect
  CMGI to monetize additional holdings and to

### Stock Performance



<sup>\*\*</sup>The views expressed are those of the macro department and do not necessarily coincide with those of the Fundamental analyst. For full investment opinion definitions, see footnotes.

CMGI Inc - 4 October 2000



remain active in acquiring companies and making investments.

 CMGI trades at 1.0X estimated NAV of \$25, at the low end of its 1-2X historical range. We do not expect the multiple to expand in an environment of worsening sentiment unless CMGI can illustrate that its operating divisions are making strong progress towards turning cash flow positive.

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Bulletin

United States Internet/e-Commerce

6 October 2000

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## **CMGI** Inc

**Cash Position Update** 

ACCUMULATE\*

Reason for Report: Update

Long Term BUY

Price:

\$19

Estimates (Jul)	2000A	2001E
EPS:	NA	NA
P/E:	NM	NM
EPS Change (YoY):		NM
Consensus EPS: (First Call: 02-Oct-2000)		
Cash Flow/Share:	NÁ	NA
Price/Cash Flow:	NM	NM
Dividend Rate:	Nil	Nil
Dividend Yield:	Nil	Nil

### Opinion & Financial Data

Investment Opinion: D-2-1-9 \$5,586 / 294 Mkt. Value / Shares Outstanding (mn): \$20.79 Book Value/Share (Jan-2000): Price/Book Ratio: 0.9xLT Liability % of Capital: 4.0%

### Stock Data

\$163.50-\$18.38 52-Week Range: Symbol / Exchange: CMGI/OTC Options: None Institutional Ownership-Spectrum: Brokers Covering (First Call):

### ML Industry Weightings & Ratings\*\*

Strategy; Weighting Rel. to MkL:
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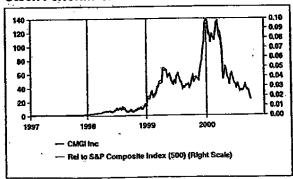
(07-Mar-1995) Underweight Income: (07-Mar-1995) Growth: Overweight (07-Mar-1995) Income & Growth: Overweight (28-Jan-1999) Capital Appreciation: In Line Market Analysis; Technical Rating: Below Average (28-Mar-2000)

For full investment opinion definitions, see footnotes.

## Investment Highlights:

- We've received a number of questions about our comments on CMGI's cash position. This note is intended to clarify those comments.
- While cash remains a watch item for CMGI (and most internet companies), CMGI is taking steps to reduce its burn, and we do not believe solvency is an issue for CMGI.
- In a 10/4 note we stated that at the July's quarter's burn rate of \$93mm/month (up from \$75mm/mo. in the April quarter) CMGI's cash of \$654mm would last them about 7 months. We noted that this implied the company would either have to 1) raise additional cash, 2) sell some marketable securities, which at end of July were valued at \$1.6B, or 3) significantly reduce its cash burn.
- We understand that the has taken several steps to reduce the cash burn of its operating companies.
- In recent weeks, CMGI has accelerated expected profitability at Engage and AltaVista, and we expect to see additional improvements elsewhere.
- We do not believe we will see much of the effects of these efforts in the current quarter. However, if the company is successful, we believe the cash burn can start to decline

### Stock Performance



RC#10128058

Merrill Lynch & Co. Global Securities Research & Economics Group Global Fundamental Equity Research Department

<sup>\*</sup>Intermediate term opinion last changed on 20-Dec-1999.

<sup>\*</sup>The views expressed are those of the macro department and do not necessarily coincide with those of the Fundamental analyst.

CM€SI Inc - 6 October 2000



significantly in 1-2 quarters, and can last CMGI through break-even. As we stated yesterday, the CMGI expects 5 of 6 operating companies to be break even by fiscal year end (July).

 We do not expect the company to sell any of its operating company holdings, though we would not be surprised to see it sell some non-core marketable securities.

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Opinion Key [Le-b-]: Investment Fisit Rading(X; A - Low, B - Arreage, C - Above Average, D - High. Appreciation Potential Rading (at Int. Term - 0-12 rec.; b: Long Term -> 1 yr.): 1 - Buy, 2 - Accumulate, 3 - Neutral, 4 - Reduce, 5 - Set, 6 - No Fating, through Rading(X; A - Camellows, 9 - No Cash Dividend.

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